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## LITERATURE.

*The Independence of the Holy See.* By Cardinal Manning. (London: C. Kegan Paul & Co., 1877.)

It is not very clear at first sight why this little work has been published. With one important exception, to be noticed presently, it contains little either of fact or argument which has not been over and over again put forward in various forms during the last eighteen or nineteen years, as well by the author himself as by other apologists of the temporal power. The facts are for the most part familiar to all students of history, however they may differ as to the interpretation to be put upon them; the arguments must by this time be well known to all who have interested themselves in the discussion on either side since the question of the Roman States came within "the range of practical politics." But the probable nearness of a Papal election, combined with the critical condition of the Italian Kingdom, may not unnaturally have seemed to Cardinal Manning to call for a restatement of the case. On the one hand, any change in the present constitution of France, whether in a monarchical or imperialist sense, might tend—or at all events there are many who think it might tend—to a direct intervention on behalf of the temporal sovereignty of the Holy See. On the other hand, it is obvious that the permanence of the French Republic would materially strengthen the hands of the Republican party in Italy, who have anyhow a fair chance of an innings whenever the contested claims of Victor Emmanuel are further imperilled by devolving on a notoriously unpopular and incompetent successor. And all who have anything to gain or to regain may hope to find their opportunity in a revolutionary period, after the example of anglers who fish in troubled waters. It was perhaps hardly worth while to cite at length in the preface of the present work several testimonies of Whig statesmen in 1849 in favour of the temporal power. For, in the first place, the unitarian movement of twenty years later differed widely in its circumstances and origin from the revolution which enthroned the triumvirate at Rome; in the next place, all those statesmen based their argument exclusively on the European necessity of maintaining the spiritual independence of the Papacy, and some of them afterwards gave their assent to the contention of the friends of Italian unity—which experience has not yet disproved—that this independence can be as well or better maintained without the adventitious adjuncts of temporal sovereignty; better

in so far as a Pope-king, who is hampered by his diplomatic relations with foreign States, is less free in his ecclesiastical policy than a pontiff who has only to consider the interests of the Church. The Cardinal, on the contrary, insists that the temporal power is "a divine ordinance," originally designed, as it has proved in history, to be the guarantee of the spiritual independence of the Papacy. And while he admits, what he could not well help admitting, that "the temporal power is not necessary to the spiritual power," he yet sometimes almost identifies the two, as, e.g., when he speaks of "the sovereignty, or independence, or temporal power, if men like so to call it, with which God in His providence has invested the head of His Church on earth."

We have, then, two questions, of theory and of fact: first, as to the divine right of the temporal power; secondly, as to its operation in history. But both questions alike demand an historical solution, for the temporal power confessedly can only be proved *a posteriori* to have been "indirectly given by Divine Providence, and combined with the spiritual authority for a thousand years." But this simply proves that the temporal power of the Popes, as of other civil rulers, has been providentially permitted to develop itself in the order of the world, or, as the author himself puts it, "as is full and complete in the devolution of its right as that of our own Sovereign." In other words, it is a divine right in the same sense as the authority of Queen Victoria, which is something different in kind from the divine commission originally bestowed on the Apostles, and through them on their successors in the government of the Church. What Providence has, in one age, suffered to grow up may, for equally wise reasons, as far as we can tell, be by the same Omniscient Providence in another age suffered to decline. Nor does it follow, because the temporal power has been in times past "a provision for the independence of the spiritual power," that it is the only one, or that the same end may not hereafter be as efficiently provided for without it. It was perfectly natural to cling to it while it lasted, and it may still be natural to cling to the hope of regaining it; but it is, to say the least, premature to assume that if it is permanently lost "the political order of the Christian world will be dissolved," or the independence of the Church endangered. We might, indeed, appeal to the author's own eloquent statement to the contrary:—

"What has been the effect of all this upon the Church? Never since the Church was founded was it so widespread as it is at this hour. Never since the unity of the Apostles was the Church more solid in its unity. Never in the history of the Episcopate were the bishops of the whole Church so closely united to their Head and so inseparably united to one another. Never in Christian history can we find a time when the priesthood of the Church was so united to their bishops. Never, at any time, in all the records of the Church, can it be found that the people were so united to their pastors. The unity of the Church, without and within, the unity of faith, the unity of fidelity, is greater at this hour than it was ever yet before. The blows of the hammer which were aimed to disintegrate and to destroy have only welded together in a more indissoluble mass the unity of the Catholic Church."

Nor can we quite follow the author in some of his *obiter dicta* thrown out in the course of his historical enquiry. Thus he says, in reference to Leo III.'s coronation of Charlemagne, "He who confers authority is not a subject." Surely he may become one by his own act. Electors confer authority on their representatives, but are none the less subject to the control of Parliament; the French Empire professed to derive its authority from a *plébiscite*, but the millions who raised Louis Napoleon to the throne thenceforth became his subjects. To take another point, which has no immediate bearing on the argument: if "it is said in history"—that is in the martyrologies—that of the first thirty Roman Pontiffs "twenty-nine died by martyrdom," that cannot mean that all the twenty-nine literally "laid down their lives for a testimony of the Faith," for it is certain that several of them were not put to death. But, as Döllinger has explained in his *Hippolytus und Kallistus*, whoever suffered for the faith—as by exile, imprisonment, or otherwise—was in that early age reckoned among the martyrs, the term being used in a wider sense to include those who were afterwards called confessors. When, again, the author refers to "the treaties which once bound Europe together and gave us the hope of peace in the East," and complains that "for the last years or even months" they have been trampled under foot, it is impossible to mistake the allusion, and—we must be pardoned for adding—equally obvious to remark upon it that, if (which is very doubtful) we were bound by the letter of any treaty to support the Ottoman Government, that Government by its own unspeakable and incorrigible infamies has, to put it mildly, most superabundantly "trampled under foot" and cancelled any treaty rights it might have claimed, and placed itself for ever entirely beyond the pale of civilised States.

We have already intimated that there is one important point dwelt upon in the present volume which had not been, and from the nature of the case could not be, noticed by former writers on the temporal power. That there is some force in the objection so often put forward by Protestant as well as Catholic opponents of Italian unity, and repeated here, as to the difference of race, and therefore of national character, between the northern and southern inhabitants of the peninsula, cannot be denied. But it would be premature to assume that a difficulty which has not proved insuperable elsewhere—as, for instance, in our own country—will permanently hinder the formation of a common sentiment and common national life in Italy; nor would a separation into North and South necessarily involve a restoration of the Papal Government. The point, however, to which we referred is a much simpler one. Cardinal Manning, following in the steps of the Papal Allocation, which is subjoined in Latin and English in an Appendix, points out the conspicuous injustice of the Bill for the Repression of Clerical Abuses introduced by the Government in the last session of the Italian Parliament, and passed by the Lower House, though rejected by a small majority in the Senate. The substance of the mea-

sure is fairly enough summed up in the following passage from the Allocation, which differs considerably (as several English journals have acknowledged) from a merely formal *pronunciamento*, though it may, perhaps, be regretted that its force should be weakened by a passage which places the erection of Protestant churches and schools in Italy in the same category with "houses of ill-fame, and the obscene and loathsome sights presented to the eyes of the people."

"According to this law, all words and writings of whatsoever kind, by which ministers of religion may feel it their duty to censure or disapprove any decrees, laws, or other acts of the civil power, as being adverse either to sacred authority, or to the laws of God or of the Church, are liable to prosecution and punishment; and so are all persons who publish or circulate any such writings, of whatsoever ecclesiastical rank they may be, or from whatsoever place such writings may be issued. When this law is in force, it will be in the power of a lay tribunal to determine whether and how a priest, in administering the Sacraments or in preaching the word of God, has *disturbed the public conscience or the peace of families*, and the voice of both bishops and priests will be silenced; nay, even the very voice of the Vicar of Jesus Christ, who, although for political reasons he is said not to be personally liable to prosecution, will nevertheless be regarded as punished in the persons of his accomplices" (pp. 131-2).

The spirit of the measure is contained in the words we have italicised, and, although it has been thrown out for the moment, it evidently represents the mind of the present authorities, and might, of course, easily be reintroduced next year. The result may be best illustrated to English readers by supposing a similar enactment to be placed on our own statute-book. It would follow at once that any Dissenting minister who should, *e.g.*, denounce the existence of an Established Church as a national injustice and a violation of divine law—as many of them do habitually denounce it from pulpit and platform—might be proceeded against for "disturbing the public conscience." On the other hand, a High Churchman who preached confession would expose himself—as recent events have only too clearly proved—to prosecution for "disturbing the peace of families." And a clergyman who publicly denounced divorce *a vinculo*, which is sanctioned by the Marriage Act of 1857—as many of the Anglican clergy, to their credit, have denounced it during the last twenty years—as a direct violation of the revealed law of God, would unquestionably lay himself open to both charges at once. We have purposely taken two or three familiar illustrations in order to bring home to English minds the real scope and bearing of the proposed legislation. A good deal would of course depend in practice on the method of working the Act, which might vary with successive Ministries, but as far as legal protection goes, if it was once passed, no Italian priest who had any pastoral duties to discharge, or any convictions to express, could for a single day call his soul his own. What the Cardinal says on this point, and what is urged on the attention of European Governments in the Allocation he has reprinted, is deserving of grave attention. H. N. OXENHAM.

*The Agamemnon of Aeschylus.* Translated into English Verse by E. D. A. Morshead, M.A. (London: C. Kegan Paul & Co., 1877.)

AFTER studying Mr. Browning's Transcript from the *Agamemnon*—primitive and massive, like some colossal ark of curiously carved archaic gopher wood—it is not a little strange to turn to the translation which Mr. Morshead has aimed at making above all things "readable." During the last twelve months three brand-new versions of the *Agamemnon* have appeared; and this, the latest comer of the three, has to compete, not only with its two formidable contemporaries, but also with the past glories of Potter, Symmons, Harford, Conington, Miss Anna Swanwick, and Prof. Plumptre. In having so many rivals Mr. Morshead is assuredly unfortunate; for his translation is that of a cultivated and intelligent scholar, which, if it stood alone, might fairly challenge attention, but which does not distinguish itself by any eminent characteristic from its predecessors. If Mr. Morshead is not so poetical as Milman, neither is he so tame as Harford. If his scholarship is less noticeable than Conington's, it is more so perhaps than Potter's. He is not so prosaic as Plumptre, nor yet so neat as Miss Swanwick. In his Preface he modestly disclaims all rivalry with Mr. Browning; and, indeed, to compare his version with that unique and extraordinary Transcript would be difficult. The compromise he has adopted is the very opposite of Mr. Browning's. He does not seek to return the Greek upon our hands in so much exactly reckoned English. He deals in equivalents, and searches after paraphrastic renderings. In this method of translation everything depends upon the writer's having or catching a portion of his author's spirit, so as to produce by his own choice of phrase and form an impression on the mind of the English reader analogous to that which the original made upon his own. The merit of Mr. Fitzgerald's self-styled "version or perversion" consists in a not unfrequent success of this kind—notably, in his rendering of Clytemnestra's speech about the beacon-signals of Troy's overthrow. Mr. Morshead seems less lucky in finding echoes of the Aeschylean manner. He gives us, for example—

"for in the place of sleep  
Stands Fear as my familiar, and repels  
The soft repose that would assuage mine eyes,"

for

φύβος γὰρ ἀνθ' ὕπνου παρασταεῖ  
τὸ μὴ βεβαίως βλέφαρα συμβαλεῖν ὕπνῳ,

and

"in lineage fair,  
A bright posterity of Ida's fire,"

for the famous

οὐκ ἀπαππον Ἰδαίου πυρός.

Mr. Morshead in his Preface frankly admits his inability to deal with the choric metres of Aeschylus; and he has chosen what seems the wisest course in confining himself to simple English structures sufficiently varied to be agreeable. But it must be considered a mistake to have substituted in two important instances of stichomuthia (see pp. 29, 50) the trochaic for the iambic metre, when he cannot fail

to know the special value of trochaic in the Greek dramatic economy. Not only is unnecessary violence done to the form of the original by this unwarranted change, but it has also betrayed Mr. Morshead into some avoidable weaknesses of rendering. We have, for instance:—

"CLYTEMNESTRA.

"Nay, I pray thee to unsay it! thwart not thou my loving will."

"AGAMEMNON.

"Know, my kingly word is spoken, and to swerve from it were ill."

in the place of—

καὶ μὴν τὸδ' εἶπε μὴ παρὰ γνώμην ἐμολ.  
γνώμην μὲν ἴσθι μὴ διαφθεροῦντ' ἐμέ.

It may be worth while to quote Mr. Morshead's version of the famous and difficult passage about Helen's flight, in order that readers of the ACADEMY may compare it with those of Mr. Browning and Mr. Fitzgerald.

"And such did Paris come

Unto Atides' home,

And thence, with sin and shame his welcome to repay,  
Ravished the wife away—

And she, unto her country and her kin

Leaving the clash of shields and spears and arming ships,

And bearing unto Troy destruction for a dower,

And overbold in sin,

Went fleetly thro' the gates, at midnight hour.

Oft from the prophet's lips,

Rang loud the warning and the wail—Ah woe!

Woe for the home, the home! and for the chieftains, woe!

Woe for the bride-bed, warm

Yet from the lovely limbs, the impress of the form

Of her who loved her lord, awhile ago!

And woe! for him who stands

Shamed, silent, unreproachful, stretching hands

That find her not, and sees, yet will not see,

That she is far away!

And his sad fancy, yearning o'er the sea,

Shall summon and recal

Her wraith, once more to queen it in his hall.

And sad with many memories

The fair cold beauty of each sculptured face—

And all to hatefulness is turned their grace,

Seen blankly for forlorn and hungering eyes.

And when the night is deep,

Come visions sweet and sad, and bearing pain

Of hopes vain—

Void, void and vain, for scarce the sleeping sight

Has seen its old delight,

When thro' the grasps of love that bid it stay,

It vanishes away

On silent wings that roam adown the ways of sleep!"

(p. 22.)

Mr. Morshead's Preface will be read with pleasure, especially that portion of it which treats of the progress of the Aeschylean style from over-richness to simplicity. How far the students of Dante and Aeschylus will agree with him in fancying "that an interesting parallel might be drawn between the three plays of the Oresteia and the three divisions of the *Divina Commedia*" may be doubted. J. A. SYMONDS.

SIR WALTER RALEGH.

*Life of Sir Walter Raleigh.* By Louise Creighton. (London: Rivingtons, 1877.)

THIS little volume is confessedly a compilation from the works of recent writers on the subject. It has been written with great care, and with an evident desire to "take the latest light." Nearly all the differing dicta on the vexed questions of Raleigh's life find some notice, however brief. When account is taken of those for whom the series is primarily intended, one is inclined occasion-



ally to regret that the mode of treatment is not more direct. Boys and girls will not profit much by the balancing of opposite views. The evidence is not before them, and they may be puzzled and baffled rather than guided by abundance of suggestion. Mrs. Creighton had she chosen, could doubtless have held her way straight through the thicket of examinations and apologies and declarations to tell the story of the mine as clearly and impressively as she has written her brief *Armada* chapter—and to the greater comfort of her readers.

Elizabeth is somewhat harshly dealt with. She is allowed to have been a fairly good scholar, as a lady need be who answers a Greek speech "after a show of bashfulness, in the same tongue," or to whom Burleigh's eulogium can apply even with due deduction—"She spoke and understood all languages." We are told, too, that "the personal devotion which seemed natural enough when paid to a young queen of twenty-five, surrounded by difficulties and dangers, became absurd when directed to a woman of forty-eight." But the dangers were not over: and the remark ignores what is too often forgotten, that Elizabeth was a symbol as well as a person. Her face might become "wrinkled" and her "teeth black"—but she was still Gloriana to all true-hearted Englishmen. "False hair and fine dresses could not make her a young beauty;" but the nation was in the high fantastical days of its youth, and its magnificence found expression in the varied costliness and dainty devices of the pomp around the Queen.

Leicester fares worse. The paragraph describing him is for matter and manner the weakest in the book:—

"It was said of him that he was prepared to poison or murder, in some secret manner, any man that stood in his way. Most likely he was suspected of more crimes than he actually committed; still it was true that at times people died most opportunely for his plans. He was supposed to have summoned a certain Doctor Julio from Italy to instruct him in the art of poisoning; and his victims appeared to die of natural diseases. . . . He was no ruffian, but possessed an absolute command of temper, and would have scorned to gain his ends by violence. His villany was not that of the rough Teuton, but of the astute and polished Italian."

The volume needs revision. One of the numerous misprints (at page 88, "alterations" for "misfortunes") makes nonsense of Lady Raleigh's letter. There is a singular reference to a *Life and Letters of Bacon* by a Mr. "Stebbing." Raleigh's words to Thynne are not correctly given. By an oversight the existence of the Mermaid Club and the journey of Ben Jonson into France with the younger Raleigh are said to be traditions only. But they are facts; and are referred to in the well-known Notes of Drummond, and in the almost proverbial lines of Beaumont. Raleigh's age at his death was not sixty-three, as here given, but sixty-six.

Of the Guiana voyage Mrs. Creighton's view is, in brief, that Raleigh was excusably foolish in taking the commission which James was inexcusably guilty in granting. In her account of the commission itself, there is a mistake in a very important particular:—"He was to take possession of

no territory belonging to any Christian prince; to inflict no hurt on any Spanish subject; to do nothing which might hinder the existing peace with Spain." But of all this there is not a word in the commission. In the spring of 1617, Raleigh's scheme for the Guiana voyage was under consideration. To the persistent objections of Gondomar (to use his later and better-known name) Raleigh replied that the mine he sought was not on Spanish territory—"very far distant from the lands of the King of Spain" is the phrase in Gondomar's story. Whether the exaggeration is his or Raleigh's may be doubted. At any rate the Spaniard's objection was not removed by the statement, for he rejoined that "all that part about the river Orinoco" was the King of Spain's. James endeavoured to reassure him, and Raleigh gave security that he would not commit "outrages or spoils" against the Spanish king's subjects. Gondomar replied by representing the inconveniences of the expedition and the obligation under which his master was placed to chastise Walter Raleigh wherever he might be found.

In these circumstances, Raleigh's commission issued. It delegated to Raleigh the power of life and death over his associates. It secured to him and them four-fifths of the profits of the voyages, "that he may be encouraged to go forward." It said nothing of a mine or of keeping clear of Spanish territory—though these had been the sole difficulties in the matter. It defined the expedition as

"to parts possessed and inhabited by heathen and savage people, to the end to discover and find out some commodities and merchandises in those countries . . . whereof the inhabitants there make little or no use or estimation: whereupon also may ensue by trade and commerce some propagation of the Christian Faith and reformed religion among these savage and idolatrous people."

The Declaration (issued some weeks after Raleigh's execution) calls this a "limited commission," in the sense that "its tenor appeared to be so far from giving Raleigh any colour to invade Spanish territory" that "it tended to a direction of commerce rather than spoil even towards the savages themselves;" and refers in passing to the "cautions which his Majesty intended or used." The Declaration makes the story worse as against James, for it admits that he did not believe the "proposition" of the mine; that he coupled the Spaniards with the mine in his royal cogitation (it "was not probable the Spaniards would have neglected it so long"); and that he disbelieved the "proposition" because "it proceeded from the person of Sir Walter Raleigh invested with such circumstances both of his disposition and fortune." His Majesty "considered his honour engaged not to deny unto his people the adventure and hope of so great riches . . . [but] to encourage noble and generous enterprises"—for moonshine, apparently. For these reasons, James (well knowing the claims of Spain on all that part to which Raleigh was going, the certainty of collision, and the determination of the Spaniards to chastise Raleigh wherever he might be found) signed the commission, after repeated perusal and correction. He had wrapped up the gunpowder in parch-

ment, and thereby taken security for its good behaviour. He then quietly let it drop into the fire. The blame of any explosion must rest on the powder.

After Raleigh's men on their way to the mine had been attacked (it seems) by the Spaniards, had driven them into S. Thomé, and had burnt the town without getting at any mine, the responsibility for what he had done and for what he had failed to do fell upon Raleigh alone. A royal proclamation roundly asserted that in his commission an express "limitation and caution" forbade injury to the territory and subjects of any Christian prince, "especially those of our dear brother the King of Spain." That the assertion was untrue mattered not. It served its purpose of prejudicing the cause of Raleigh. After his death, the official Declaration (containing, as it did, the text of the commission) was obliged to take another tack, and make the prohibition a matter of inference merely. As to the damage and slaughter at S. Thomé, they are mentioned in general terms, but without any hint of the reprobation with which unauthorised violence against the subjects of a friendly Power would be regarded now. The Declaration does not expressly deny that Raleigh's men acted in mere self-defence, and the point is not quite clear from the evidence now remaining; but such an aggravation of the charge is not likely to have been spared could it have been substantiated. The words are:—"It was blown abroad that the assault of S. Thomé was enforced by a kind of necessity, for that our troops were first assailed; it appeareth" that Sir Walter had intended the assault from the first.

Mrs. Creighton says:—"The common view was that Raleigh was executed under his old sentence merely to please Spain." And in this case the common view seems, on the whole, the nearest to the truth. The difficulty as to Raleigh's civil death from his former sentence was a foreseen embarrassment, not without its convenience. He could be put to death easily enough as things stood. Had he been capable of trial for his late offence, the Commissioners might have found it difficult to define it. In their letter to the king, they recommend an Act of Council as the best form whereby James might proceed upon the old sentence. It would certainly have been an honest course than that adopted. The justice that vindicated a peace "so happily established and so long inviolably continued" by the sacrifice of the most eminent English leader of his time took no account of the murder in cold blood of six-and-thirty Englishmen by the Spaniards during that peace. If Raleigh was to die, it was better to lay his death to its real cause—reason of State.

Raleigh's acceptance of a commission worded so as to keep out of sight the primary object of his voyage may be laid to his reckless eagerness to find himself again in action. Had the prohibition, afterwards said to be implied, really been inserted, the instrument would have been for his purpose mere waste-paper. We know that he afterwards attributed his misfortunes to his overconfidence in the king. Were the defects in the licence supplied by any understanding

with James? Mr. Spedding, adverse as he is to Raleigh, has sometimes "suspected him of fancying that there was such an understanding." And it does not seem very unlikely that this supposed conjecture of Raleigh's was the real state of the case. If so, Raleigh's undertakings not to molest the Spaniards, inadequate as they were (for they could not be taken to bar him from self-defence) to repair the defect in the commission, might be accepted by James to give Raleigh a chance of trying what he could make of his voyage—at his own risk. Raleigh forgot how the world had changed from the old days, when he had done and dared so much. His long imprisonment should have taught him better; but judgment had never been a conspicuous quality of Raleigh's where he himself was concerned. A Ulysses of over-many counsels, he had some vanity mingled with his greatness, and relied too much on his own resources and expedients. He was the last of the Knights of the Faërie Queene, and had outlived Cervantes.

Mrs. Creighton, while acknowledging her obligations to previous writers, draws her own conclusions from the facts they furnish. Though her advocacy is diffident and somewhat fragmentary, she is throughout loyal to her hero; not unduly laudatory, but making charitable allowance for a true-hearted, sorely-tried man. She frankly declares for Raleigh against the king, declining to follow the fashion whereby James has had his share of the rehabilitation freely accorded in our own day to all the unpleasant characters of history. The extension of this sort of clemency is cheering and agreeable; but when exercised at the cost of undue severity to those whose names are justly dear to us, the process is too expensive. The wheel may turn presently. When we come to have nobody left to rehabilitate we may try our hand upon tradition, and so get round to "those third thoughts that are a riper first," having learnt a good deal by the way.

R. C. BROWNE.

*Illustrious Irishwomen.* Being Memoirs of some of the most noted Irishwomen from the Earliest Ages to the Present Century. By E. Owens Blackburne. (London: Tinsley Brothers, 1877.)

Of the personages whose lives are related in this book it must be said that several are not "Irishwomen," and that few are really "illustrious." "Perdita" Robinson, who was born at Bristol, whose father was born in America, and whose mother was born at Bridgewater, is included in the list in that her grandsire was a MacDermott; Mrs. Centlivre, the dramatist, whose maiden name was Freeman, is accounted Irish apparently because her birthplace has not been ascertained, and because her father, a Lincolnshire gentleman, and her mother, a Norfolk lady, happened to live in Ireland for some years after their marriage. The Miss Porters, born in Durham, who wrote the *Scottish Chiefs*; Mrs. Clive, the actress, who was born in London; and Mrs. Hemans, who was born in Liverpool, are hardly to be considered Irish; there is at least as good reason for counting them among

Englishwomen, even though Ireland may have had some share in their origin. And the term "illustrious" has certainly been bestowed with excessive liberality; now and then "notorious" or even "infamous" would have been far more applicable; while certain ladies to whom the biographer invites attention can only be described as "obscure." The career of George Anne Bellamy was very scandalous, and it may be doubted whether she was really an actress of any genius; the lives of Dorothy Jordan and Mrs. Robinson are not edifying; and but little fame attaches to the Hon. Mrs. Monk, who died in 1715 leaving a collection of poems and translations in manuscript; to Constantia Grierson, who, in the last century, translated Tacitus and Terence; to Charlotte Brooke, the author of *Historical Memoirs of the Irish Bards*; to Lady O'Neil, who wrote "An Ode to the Poppy" and rejoiced in the friendship of Mrs. Charlotte Smith; to the Hon. Mrs. Aldworth, who is said to have been admitted a Freemason; or to Lady Louisa Conolly, who seems to have distinguished herself only in improving her estate at Castletown.

The plan of the book is perhaps too catholic to display national characteristics to advantage, or to permit much exhibition of what is known as "raciness of the soil." The so-called Irishwomen here assembled do not really differ from Englishwomen; there is little in their experiences and proceedings that is distinctly typical of life and manners in the sister kingdom. And the author's scheme is somewhat perplexing from its magnitude and comprehensiveness. The earlier pages deal with accounts, necessarily slight, of such primitive or apocryphal heroines as Queen Macha and Queen Méave, whose lives, it is said, cannot be separated from the framework of romantic legend in which they are set, but whose supernatural attributes are yet "based upon actual occurrences." Then follow records of Saint Brigit, of the fair and frail Princess of Breffney, and of Eva, the wife of Strongbow. Apology is made for the barrenness of the mediæval period in regard to the materials for feminine biography, but room is found for mention of Margaret O'Carroll of Offally; of the fabulously old Countess of Desmond; of the fair Geraldine; of Grainne O'Mailly, or Grace O'Malley, as she is more commonly called, sea-queen and she-pirate of the sixteenth century; of Lettice, Baroness Ophaly, and of La Belle Hamilton. Arrived at the eighteenth century, the compiler's position becomes more comfortable, for histories and historiettes abound of the actresses whose adventures are next narrated, including Peg Woffington, Miss Farren (afterwards Countess of Derby), Miss Pope, Miss O'Neil (afterwards Lady Beecher), and Miss Catherine Hayes, who was, however, rather a singer than an actress. The second volume is devoted chiefly to literary women, and among these are numbered Mrs. Tighe, of "Psyche" fame, the Countess of Blessington, Miss Edgeworth, the over-valued Lady Morgan, and the sisters Lady Gifford (better known as Lady Dufferin) and Lady Stirling Maxwell (celebrated as the Hon. Mrs. Norton). A group of figures labelled "Miscellaneous," and

consisting of the beautiful Miss Gunnings, Sarah Curran, the ladies of Llangollen, with some two or three more, occupy the concluding portions of the book, the author, "on the advice of those more qualified to judge," having abandoned a notion once fondly entertained of including notices of illustrious Irishwomen who are still in existence. Apologies are tendered for the omission of all mention of the ancient Irish Queen Gormflaith, or Gormley—the general reader will probably bear this loss with resignation—and for withholding an unpublished poem by William Wordsworth, concerning which there is some flourishing in the preface. At the last moment, it would seem, the publication of this effusion was stayed upon the intervention of the poet's grandson.

The book is of small literary value, and a degree of discomfiture will probably attend "the silent patriotism," as it is called, of the author's efforts "to preserve in a collected form the names and achievements of some of the most gifted daughters of Erin." It is fair to say, however, that *Illustrious Irishwomen* is amusing reading enough, being largely composed of extracts from familiar biographies and books of anecdote. Many pages are filled with reprinted matter, and, indeed, the author seems to have systematically abstained from the expression of original opinion. A long list of authorities is furnished, and many works are said to have been searched for information, if the result thereby obtained is for the most part of an unimportant character. Perhaps the author is seen to the best advantage in the biographies of Peg Woffington and Miss Farren, although some of the old-fashioned unrefined stories affecting the morality of the first-named need hardly have been repeated. The time has not come for telling the story of the second daughter of Thomas Sheridan, and certain statements here put forth are inexpedient and indiscreet to say the least of them. The inaccuracies appearing in various parts of the book should be corrected. There is a slip, for instance, in the statement that "Sheridan's farce of *The Rehearsal* was suggested and founded upon an old play of the same name by the witty Duke of Buckingham." Mrs. Clive is said to have had the honour of playing "the chief character in the first French piece that was ever adapted for the English stage." The author is surely aware that the system of adapting plays from the French commenced shortly after the Restoration. The statement that Mrs. Clive played "the chief female part" in *The Winter's Tale* to the Leontes of Garrick is of course incorrect. The author intended, no doubt, to refer to her performance in Garrick's farce of *Katherine and Petruchio*—carved out of *The Taming of the Shrew*—which was played after *The Winter's Tale*. Mrs. Abington, the actress, is frequently referred to as Mrs. Abingdon. Signora Brambilla and the "two Lablaches" were certainly not among Miss Hayes's fellow-singers at Covent Garden in 1849, or in any other year.

DUTTON COOK.

M. LE COMTE DE VOGÜÉ has published the second part of his *Syrie Centrale*, consisting entirely of numerous inscriptions from Syria, partly Aramaic, partly Mandaic.



ANNA BIJNS.

*Refereinen [Refrains], van Anna Bijns.*  
Naar de nalatenschap van Mr. A. Bogaers,  
uitgegeven door Dr. W. L. van Helten.  
(Rotterdam: Dunk, 1876.)

THE Dutch scholars have, until the last generation, been somewhat indifferent with regard to the early literature of their country. A conventional tribute was paid to Vondel, and that was regarded as enough. Of late years, however, the spirit of antiquarian resuscitation has spread from England and France to Holland, and there have been issued handsome editions of the great Dutch poets of the seventeenth century. The labours of Jonckbloet, Ten Brink, and others, have roused public curiosity in the men that illustrate with their writings the best period of the commonwealth. Old Dutch literature, as a matter of fact, is limited in compass, and we may soon hope to have restored to us in a convenient form all the works in it intrinsically worthy of preservation. It is certainly surprising that so much of doubtful interest has been allowed to precede the extremely important poems of the writer whose verses are here for the first time collected.

Modern Dutch literature practically begins with Anna Bijns. Against the crowd of rhetoricians and psalm-makers of the early part of the sixteenth century she stands out in relief as the one poet of real genius. The language, oscillating before her time between French and German, formless, corrupt and invertebrate, took shape and comeliness, which none of the male pedants could give it, from the impassioned hands of a woman. Anna Bijns, who is believed to have been born at Antwerp in 1494, was a schoolmistress at that city in her middle life, and in old age she still "instructed youth in the Catholic religion." Hendrik Peppinck, a Franciscan who edited her third volume of poems when she was an old woman in 1567, speaks of her as "a maiden small of descent but great of understanding, and godly of life." Her first known volume bears the date 1528, and displays her as already deeply versed in the mysteries of religion. We should gather from all this that she was a lay nun; but, on the contrary, we learn from her own bitter confession in the volume of 1567 that her early life was wholly given up to the pleasures of sin for a season. Like her contemporary Louise Labé, the exquisite singer of Lyons, she seems to have been a courtesan. Young and beautiful, keenly alive to the delights of the senses, as her rich verses prove her, she became the victim of her passions; she tells us herself that an overweening love of the music of lyres and citherns was a special snare to her soul, and she speaks of one particular lover whose early death seems to have struck her with terror and anguish. Her earliest dated poem was written on November 21, 1523, and we may suppose, in the absence of history, that this was the approximate date of her return to a serious life. The secular poems of her youth, which would have been of the greatest interest to us and to which she freely refers, are entirely lost. Perhaps, like George Herbert, she destroyed them, as

vain and sensual. Her early gaiety does not seem to have prevented her from occupying a position of great honour and influence at Antwerp. She was named by her contemporaries "the Sappho of Brabant," and "the Princess of all Rhetoricians;" her poems were translated by the learned into Latin, and the Roman Catholic Church embraced the charming penitent as though she were another St. Mary of Egypt. She rewarded this cordiality by espousing the cause of the old régime against the Reformers, and bent the powerful weapon of her verse against the faith and the character of Luther. In her volume of 1528 the Lutherans are rarely mentioned; in that of 1540 every page is occupied with invectives against them, varied with endless versatility, and barbed with the keenest wit. The third volume of 1567 is the voice of one from whom her age has passed, a voice of despair more than of satire, weeping over the bitter retrospect of life. Her motto, constantly reiterated, is *meer suers dan soets*, "more sour than sweets." Her satires and personal attacks on Luther—whom she accuses of worshipping in Bacchus's church, and leading on a troop of gay clerks of Venus to sing fleshly songs in the wilderness—are grotesque enough, but full of vigour, point and vivacity.

All the poems of Anna Bijns which we possess are called *Refereinen* or Refrains. Her mastery over verse-form was extremely remarkable, and these refrains are really modified *chant-royals*, scarcely less difficult of execution than those of Clément Marot, who was her French contemporary. These elaborate harmonies appear to have offered no obstacle to the free expression of her thoughts, which rush out in tumultuous force, like molten metal, yet never fail to fill the mould exactly. We have no record of her master in the poetic art; her earliest verses are lost, and she rises before us full-panoplied, an Athene among poetesses. One of the earliest refrains she has left us, dated December 9, 1526, is a ripe and lovely poem, dripping with the nard and spice of Oriental imagery, and could not be more finished or adult. The learning, originality and virile intelligence of this great poetess, and her pathetic position as the leader of a forlorn hope, give her a place almost unique in literature.

The writings of Anna Bijns offer many points of interest to the philologist. In her the period of Middle Dutch ceases, and the modern Dutch begins. In a few grammatical peculiarities—such as the formation of the genitive by some verbs which now govern the accusative, and the use of *ghe* before the infinitive—her language still belongs to Middle Dutch; but these exceptions are rare, and she really initiated that modern speech which Filips van Marnix in the next generation adopted and made classical. The present edition of Anna Bijns was for many years in course of preparation by Mr. A. Bogaers, and when he died in 1871, was continued by his friend, Dr. van Helten, to whom the present publication is due. The entire lack of any biographical or critical Introduction is a serious one; even in Holland everyone cannot know the particulars of the life of Anna Bijns. But in other

respects the work is admirably performed, and there is appended, in a separate volume, a very useful and intelligent glossary.

EDMUND W. GOSSE.

WOLFF'S MODERN HISTORICAL ATLAS.

*Carl Wolff's Historischer Atlas.* Neunzehn Karten zur mittleren und neueren Geschichte. Mit erläuterndem Text. (Berlin: Reimer, 1875-77.)

THE third and concluding part of this Atlas has just been issued. It is intended to serve the same purposes for the Middle Ages and for modern history which Kiepert's *Atlas Antiquus* has fulfilled for classical times, and to be of use to educated readers generally, as well as to schools and universities. It contains nineteen maps, and with the help of some side-maps we thus have the historical geography of Europe set before us in the years 500, 752, 843, 888, 1000, 1150, 1250, 1378, 1477, 1519, 1556, 1648, 1721, 1789, 1806, 1812, 1866, 1871. Many of the maps, however, have special reference to Germany as the central State of mediæval history, and several are connected with the history of the Holy Roman Empire. One gives the Apulian dominions of the Hohenstaufen, another the ecclesiastical divisions of central Europe at the commencement of the Reformation, another the kingdom of Poland with the outlines of the three partitions represented by differences of colouring. The tenth really contains two maps giving the Circles of Germany and its territorial divisions at the time of Charles V.'s abdication, and these are perhaps the clearest of the German maps; the endless subdivisions of the German States always having a bewildering effect. Carlyle's vivid descriptions have made the Hohenzollern subdivisions sufficiently intelligible to be remembered, but the work remains to be done in many other cases. It is impossible to represent in any series of maps the ever-changing political boundaries of Europe, but something can be done by taking epochs which are landmarks of history, such as the break-up of the Carolingian Empire, or the Peace of Westphalia, and leaving the intermediate changes between any two epochs to be explained by the teacher, who should put two successive maps before the pupils and teach them how to account for the changes. The tendency, again, of natural boundaries to reappear as political boundaries in successive ages may be turned to account in teaching. The Ticino and the Trebia, on either side of the Po, may be said to retain their importance as political boundaries from early Roman times up to the formation of the present kingdom of Italy. Wolff has carefully represented the state of things in particular years, not during whole periods—the latter method, though sometimes necessary, is almost always more or less misleading. A picture of the sunset should only represent one given time, not the changes of the whole afternoon and evening. The chief question, therefore, must be whether the dates above given are the best that could have been chosen. It is obvious that they are chosen mainly as illustrative of German history, as affecting, or affected by, that of

the rest of Europe. They are not so available for France or Italy. The Spanish peninsula and the Scandinavian kingdoms are in several of the later maps necessarily omitted, and parts of England only appear incidentally. The maps are constructed on different scales, but this was probably unavoidable. Germany is given on the largest scale, that of 1 : 3,900,000. The author has carefully selected the names to be inserted, omitting many small places that are historically unimportant, and marking their relative importance by differences of type. Still, the German maps seem over-full; it is always a relief to turn to the clear French divisions, Normandy, Guienne, and so on. As to the spelling of the names, the German spelling is adopted for those which have, as it were, a naturalised German form, such as Mailand, Venedig; other names retain the form given to them by their own nation. Some help for pronouncing Magyar and Slavonian names is given in a small table accompanying the descriptive letterpress. For early mediæval history the third map (A.D. 1000) is, perhaps, the most useful: the "gaus," or cantons, of Germany, and the small divisions of France are very carefully given; we only miss a few of the names that occur, for instance, in Einhart and Nithard. In the fifth map, on the other hand (A.D. 1250), while France is clearly given, the German part is (perhaps unavoidably) almost unintelligible—certainly German history at Frederick II.'s death corresponds with the geography. Map 7, again, "the ecclesiastical divisions of Europe in the middle of the fifteenth century," is particularly clear. Two of the errata naturally refer to Burgundy—an ambiguous name, which is always occasioning difficulty. Taken altogether, this Atlas fulfils its purpose admirably, and its cost is only 12s. Any of the maps, too, may be had separately for about 10d., and some of these maps would be very useful to those who are studying particular epochs of history.

C. W. BOASE.

#### NEW NOVELS.

*Erema; or, My Father's Sin.* By R. D. Blackmore. (London: Smith, Elder & Co., 1877.)

*A Young Wife's Story.* By Harriette Bowra. (London: Sampson Low & Co., 1877.)

*Dita.* By Lady Margaret Majendie. (Edinburgh and London: W. Blackwood & Sons, 1877.)

*Jasper Deane, Wood-Carver of St. Paul's.* By John Saunders. (London: Sampson Low & Co., 1877.)

THE heroine of Mr. Blackmore's new story tells us her own adventures. Erema is the child of a Captain Castlewood, who had been imprisoned on a charge of murdering his father, an English peer, had made his escape from jail while the enquiry was pending, and spent the rest of his life in a miserable exile. His six children had died of diphtheria while he was in prison, and his wife had quickly followed them, leaving only Erema, a newly-born infant, to share her father's exile and disgrace. Hand-in-hand these two have wandered together over the earth, till Erema has grown into a pretty

girl of fifteen, and fate brings the luckless pair to the border-line of golden California. Here, in a wild parched region of desert, the father dies, and Erema is left solitary. But at this critical point of her story she is rescued and taken in hand by an old countryman of her father's, Sampson Gundry, who with his grandson, young Ephraim, works a sawmill in the district. The sawyer is a fine specimen of an old Cornishman. He owns by settlement a valuable district of country along the banks of the swift Blue River, from its source up among the hills down into the valley. When the gold-digging mania of 1849 had set in he "stood like a bull on the banks of his own river," and defied the gold-diggers to pollute it. But he made a fortune, nevertheless, not by gold-digging, though the very soil he trod on sparkled with nuggets, but by cutting wood. His partners were the mountain, the forest, and the stream, and Gundry's sawmill was the only one to be found within twelve degrees of latitude, and perhaps a score of longitude. This colonist is, indeed, a grand old man; and believing as he does in Erema's father, having perhaps some debt of gratitude to him unpaid, he takes home his orphan child and rears her as his own. In time Erema picks up the story of her father's life—the horrible accusation of murder that had driven him abroad, but which had never been either proved or contradicted. And at last she is determined to devote as much of her own life as shall be found necessary to clearing his memory from all shame and blame. With this purpose the heroic girl crosses the Atlantic, visits her birth-place, and sets to work to hunt out the mystery. She proceeds in a most unbusinesslike manner, and does not take one detective into her confidence. Indeed, part of her business is to detect the detectives, whom she suspects of having been all along in league with the guilty. By a series of happy chances she succeeds in a short time in discovering the real murderer, and establishes the fact that her father was not only innocent of crime, but had acted in silence a hero's part. Moreover, by the death of the reigning Lord Castlewood, her cousin, she comes into the family title and estates. And now, having completed her self-imposed mission, she sets out on her way back to California and the sawmill; reaches the other side of the Atlantic in time to help in nursing the sick and wounded in the war; and among them finds her old friends, Sampson Gundry and his grandson, arrayed on opposite sides in the strife. All ends as happily as it should, and the young peeress concludes her romantic history by becoming the wife of the sawyer's grandson.

This is, at first sight, an excellent plot for a story; but on closer inspection it will be found wanting in some of the essential characteristics. In the first place, Mr. Blackmore has fettered himself with a useless difficulty by attempting to tell it, through three entire volumes, in the character of a young girl. Erema is, it is true, an eccentric, whose breeding is a mixture of the desert and the nunnery, and who may, therefore, be allowed to do and say things not at all in accordance with any

known laws of girl-nature. At the same time it is to be expected that the most eccentric girl in the world will at times betray qualities wholesomely girlish or womanly. But Erema never does this, even when Mr. Blackmore introduces, somewhat mechanically, an element of feminine cowardice into her behaviour. Then, again, Mr. Blackmore has done his best to spoil what might have been a good story by beginning it in the middle. The incident of the father's death in the Californian desert is a fine one to set out with, and is splendidly told; but, unfortunately, it kills off at the commencement of things the very man in whose character and history we are expected to take a lively interest, and throws into retrospect a considerable and very intricate part of the narrative. To expose a falsehood while its victim is alive to enjoy the result of our efforts is pleasant enough, but to do so when we have already buried him in Chapter I., and have never heard him speak, except to bid the world good-bye, is a different matter. One is inclined to leave him in peace among the clods of the valley where we found him. Nor does Mr. Blackmore stop here in his thirst for slaughter. Every person in the story who lends it interest, with the exception of the Gundrys, is killed off as soon as he appears on the scene. There is the cousin, Lord Castlewood, for instance, whom Erema discovers living in state in the old family Hall, and introduces to the reader with all ceremony. His dignified sorrowful demeanour, and bland endurance of pain and wrong, readily enlist our sympathies; but when next we pay our respects at the Hall, he is dead. Then we light at last, with much self-congratulation, on the real murderer of the former peer. It is a pity, by-the-by, that the poor man is insane, because more than half of our pent-up wrath is thereby rendered valueless, if not cruel, and we feel ourselves robbed of the reward of our patience which we had looked for. But worse fare is to follow. Before Erema has had time to carry out any purpose of revenge or exposure, this mad murderer is drowned in a storm. Indeed, Mr. Blackmore seems to have forgotten that if we are to care very much for what the world thought of Erema's father, or for what Erema did in the world, he should have peopled that world with something like an adequate population, and one not fatally addicted to drowning and neuralgia. When the principal *dramatis personæ* have been killed off almost as soon as they appear on the stage, there is left little more than a Chorus in the background of old nurses and peasants to sing the concluding pæan. And to make the mistake more obvious, there are none even of these simple folk who ever believed that Captain Castlewood was a murderer, and Erema's efforts, so far as they were concerned, were rather uncalled for. But the great fault of the story is in the absence of any delineation of strong human passion. We do not allude to the almost total lack in it of a love story, and to the very uninteresting character of Ephraim Gundry, who is its best approach to a lover; but rather to the want of passion of any other kind where we have a right to look for it. The absorbing motive of the story is of



course Erema's love for her dead father, but this is a sentiment rather than a passion, and mixed up not a little with a resentment and pride that take from its force. The affection between her and the grand old sawyer is warm, but scarcely warm enough to be called a passion. And when she stands at last, after her long wanderings, by her mother's grave, the girl's tears are of the coldest. Mr. Blackmore's style is as faultless as ever. There is the same deliberate luxuriousness of expression, the same cultured grace and quiet humour that we have found in his former works; but it is not the flowers by the roadside that make a landscape, nor will the most excellent verbiage compensate in a story for the lack of the grander elements of plot and passion.

*A Young Wife's Story* is an account by herself of how a rather priggish young lady turned adverse circumstances to her own ultimate advantage. She falls in love with a widower merely for his dark eyes and soft voice, and finds out after he has married her that he had done so only to gratify the whim of his testy old uncle, who has an estate and fortune to dispose of, and that she is expected to act the part henceforward of companion and amanuensis to this old Croesus, while the younger one sits aloof in his dressing-room, shedding vain tears over the portrait of the dear departed, or pouring his regrets into the ear of that enemy of conjugal bliss, the deceased wife's sister. This is no doubt a very trying state of affairs, and calls for the most Christian course of conduct on the part of the victim. Moreover there are a couple of small tyrants in the nursery upstairs who won't call her "mamma," and a nursemaid who claims seniority in the service and does not obey her orders. To make matters worse, the rich old uncle is dreadfully "irreligious," does not go to church or ask the clergyman of the parish to dinner, and reads John Stuart Mill's *Autobiography* and other dreadful books. But through all these trials the young wife persists sanctimoniously in what she calls her duty, waits on her husband's uncle, endures his temper, which is very bad, and her husband's coldness, which is worse, and watches her Croesus as one would watch an eel, to see that he does not make a new will in another and better-behaved nephew's favour. At the same time, she gives considerable attention to the old gentleman's future state and that of his valet, and refrains on no occasion from preaching the gospel to them and to the rest of her new people and kindred. The experiment is only partially successful. The valet comes round, but exhibits a broken spiritual constitution for the rest of his days, while the uncle is altogether too much for her, and dies in his sins. To some extent the young wife has outwitted herself. She hoped that the old man would show his sense of her services by leaving his estate to her husband and the naughty little boy his heir; and so help to win for her that avaricious gentleman's tardy love. But instead of this the gratitude of Croesus has overleapt the prescribed bounds, and he has left everything to herself and her own heirs. She is in a sad dilemma lest her dear Victor should hate her for taking the money from him and

his boy. But Victor, in this juncture, sets an admirable example to all the world of submission to the inevitable. He develops, with the rapidity of a Russian summer, into a loving husband, teaches his disinherited little boy good manners, and drives the refractory maid from her stronghold, the nursery. If this novel were a little more humorous and a little less doctrinal, it would not be difficult to extract from it a useful moral, although it might not be the one which the author intends us to read. But it is hopelessly tedious: a pompous pile of twaddle. The only visible character in it is the young wife herself, who believes implicitly that she is on the road to heaven when she is in fact only serving mammon with all her poor little might and main, to please an avaricious husband, who has tricked her into marriage with a lie; and who, finding that her methods have succeeded in her own case, is anxious to guide other wives on the same delectable road to fortune and a Pharisee's heaven.

The scene of *Dita* opens prettily on the shores of a Scotch loch, the bleak little manse on one shore, the laird's grey castle, with the boats moored to its wall, on the other. The catastrophe of this young laird's death has led to the destruction by his younger brother of certain documents necessary to prove the secret marriage of the elder with a beautiful and virtuous, though poor, Italian girl, and the legitimacy of their child. The mother and baby thus wronged are driven into helpless disgrace, and the mother dies in a London workhouse. The wicked brother inherits the property, and the baby, Dita, or Perdita, falls into the hands of a poor, childless bookseller and his wife in Soho, who bring her up with all love and care. The good couple in course of time come into an unexpected fortune, give up their book-shop, and buy an estate, carrying with them into new and grander scenes their little workhouse pet. Their behaviour is described with admirable truth and good taste. Indeed, this pair of *parvenus*, so utterly natural, loveable, and almost pathetic, are perhaps the most pleasant among the many very pleasantly-sketched characters in the story. The situations are sometimes a little improbable, but never ungracefully so; and nothing could be prettier of its kind than the wooing of young Sir Edward Norton and Dita, when, after being thrown from the carriage on the night of the ball, they are lying helpless and convalescent on sofas, on the opposite sides of a window, and falling in love as fast as circumstances will allow. We do not doubt that *Dita* will be a favourite.

*Jasper Deane* is a story of the seventeenth century. The author indulges largely in bad spelling, in the wish, no doubt, to carry his readers pleasantly back to the days of Pepys and the Merry Monarch. But it needs a little more than bad spelling to do this. Those of our readers who have a passion for mediæval art, but know very little about it, will find plenty to admire in this account of a young lovesick apprentice, who restored church doors two hundred years ago, and outdid Whittington himself in his marvellous good luck in a walk to

London. For the rest, its insipid prettiness and awkward efforts to reproduce an old style of English are enough to spoil what would otherwise be a graceful story.

ROSALINE ORME MASSON.

#### CURRENT LITERATURE.

*Denkwürdigkeiten aus meinem öffentlichen Leben von 1841-1866.* Von A. Duckwitz. (Bremen: Schünemann.) These memoirs are by a citizen of Bremen, who represented that free State in the German National Assembly in 1848, was Minister of Commerce in the Archduke John's cabinet, and afterwards took part in the Emperor Francis Joseph's well-meaning reform-conferences of 1865. Nothing is less like the "sleepy drench" into which the empire is fallen now than the ecstasy of political enthusiasm which pervaded all classes of the Fatherland in 1848, especially in South Germany, where public self-assertion has always been more vigorous than in the North. It seems incredible that Gagern, Itzstein, and five other private persons, should have met at Heidelberg and issued an address to the German people, convoking a popular assembly. No one asked who had authorised the seven, or what the electoral system was to be, or who was to control the elections; nevertheless the spirits answered when called from the vasty deep, as punctually as they responded last winter to the official invitation of Prince Bismarck. Duckwitz was a thoroughly unprejudiced witness of the extraordinary proceedings at Frankfurt, which he describes with considerable force and humour, in a style far superior to the German literary average. He was struck with the fact that his countrymen for once dropped their reserve, their tail-coats, and all the other formalities of manner and discourse with which under ordinary conditions they burden existence. This author's account of the Frankfurt Fürstentag, or Austrian conferences of 1865, is by far the most authentic and complete yet printed. Those negotiations failed, because Prussia, determined that neither this nor any other attempt to reform the Confederation should succeed, refused to participate in the negotiations, and eventually demanded an alternation in the Presidency, and a veto in case of war. None of the princes entertained any idea of a centralised empire like that now existing; they looked at most to an improved Directory, and with the difficulty of the Dualism there was no attempt to grapple. A sensible remark is recorded of the old King of Hanover, who said, in his vile Anglo-Deutsch, that the Germans wanted to get their unity, but did not see that they would have to wade to it through seas of blood.

*Muhammedanismus, Panславismus, und Byzantinismus.* Von Dr. Carl Grüber. (Leipzig: Wigand.) When the cannon is speaking, the time, one would think, is ill-chosen for studying the Eastern question with reference to the universal laws which govern historic Things in Themselves. Instead of stuff about the climatic antagonisms of North and South, reciprocation of national character and water—which element has an anti-conservative effect on the mind—we want facts, of which those who are clever at grand talk about laws are for the most part comically ignorant. This writer mentions, in such a foggy way as to be nearly unintelligible, the absorption of the original Bulgarian invaders of the Balkan regions, who were Finnic, by the settled Slav population of those parts. This elicits the deep remark: "In opposition to the governing Natural Laws of History the Bulgarian element vanished after a short space in the Slavish." This gentleman, then, who undertakes to instruct others, has actually never heard of what happened to the Franks in Gaul, to the Varangians in Russia, or to the Lombards in Italy. He is also ignorant of some of the elementary controversies and authorities of the subject which he affects to elucidate. After a dis-

cussion which has lasted a century, and will hardly be reopened after the labours of Consul Hahn, the fact has been accepted that the Albanians are the descendants of the old Thracio-Illyrian population, whose arrival in their ancient seats may have followed soon after the settlement of the Basques. Accordingly we learn from Leipzig: "The Albanians are of Slavic origin"! After this we need not be surprised at a division of South Slav into Serb-Croat, Bulgarian, and Slavonic. The third name ought, of course, to be Slovene, which is an ally of the two other groups, while Slavonic is a mere weakly-marked dialect of Serb-Croat. Of these tongues, Bulgarian, we learn, is in the most ancient state, the fact being precisely the reverse, Bulgarian having decayed into the Romance or Prakrit phase much more than its sisters. The author's philosophy is amazing. He says that "to fix the Idea of Pan-slavism is the task of History. Such Ideas never suddenly ripen. They are the consequences of compound varying impulses, resulting from numerous defeated experiments, and the concurrent collisional appearances of induced complications"! Why Pan-slavism has broken this grand law we need not enquire. Nor need we investigate the grounds of Dr. Grübler's fine discovery that the whole evolution of thought in Muhammed's mind can be distinctly traced in the Koran, which is a complete revelation of his entire political programme!!

*History of India for Elementary and Middle Class Schools.* By William C. Pearce. (London and Glasgow: William Collins, Sons, and Co.) This volume is a cheap and useful addition to the series bearing the name of the publishers. Upon the whole, the materials are systematically and intelligently put together; and a boy who learns the substance of the pages here supplied will have attained a mark of respectable preliminary knowledge, whence, if he please to step forward, he may enter upon a real study of Indian History. More than this in favour of the work we cannot say. We admit the brevity, but think it might have been somewhat more comprehensive. Of the thirty-one chapters the first two are geographical, and the next four contain the whole information given about India during the early ages, at the Muhammadan Conquest, and antecedent to the appearance on the scene of the rival European nations. There is consequently not much room for speculation on the Indian doings of Alexander or his generals; for the exposition of a Hindú polity; or the story of Islám; and superficial treatment of historical problems becomes a matter of course. Setting aside this natural defect in an elementary narrative, we could have wished that more attention had been paid to the spelling of Indian names. The words spelt "Ghuznevy" and "Gaury" (p. 49) commence in the original with the same letter  $\text{z}$ , commonly understood to be *gh* and never *g*. Risking the charge of pedantry on one side and inconsistency on the other, we should write them in the way we believe to be substantially correct—i.e., "Ghaznawi" and "Ghauri." In like manner, "Kusrú" (p. 49) begins with a  $\text{z}$ , *kh*, and should therefore be "Khusru;" but the *u* which is twice correctly used in "Kusrú" is wrong in the word "Mulik" (p. 49) immediately following. We should have thought "Sonbadah" a misprint in page 66, but it is thrice repeated in page 67. The true word is "Súbah-dár." It is needless to go on further, where mistakes are as thick as blackberries.

*Rumänien; Land und Volk.* Von Rudolf Henke. (Leipzig: Wigand.) This author, who seems to be personally acquainted with Rumania, has compiled in a loose, unintelligent way a quantity of information, antiquarian, geographical, and historical, relating to the Principalities, from Alexander the Great to the recent declaration of independence, which those whom it may concern may prefer to read in this book rather than in none. Henke's dis-

regard of notorious truth is occasionally surprising. For instance, he coolly asserts that the Great Powers are perpetually planning the destruction of the Ottoman Empire, and debating schemes of partition to take effect after the expulsion of the Turks. He even says that all the Powers object to a creation of independent Balkan and Danubian States, for fear Russia and Austria should have too much influence in the Peninsula, which would cause great wars. The author's ethnography is on a par with his politics. The origin of the present Wallachians and Moldavians, or Rumuns, is one of the *causes célèbres* of linguistics. The old idea was that the people of the Principalities were a cross between Trajan's military colonists and the local Dacian population. According to Gibbon (with whom agree Schafarik, Mommsen, and others), when Aurelian evacuated Dacia he left some relics of population, who fled to the mountains, and, descending again 500 years later, became the parents of the present Rumuns; while Rossler, the last authority, enlarging on an argument of Engel seventy years old, asserts that the Rumuns descend from a fresh immigration which occurred in the thirteenth century. This being the present state of a well-known controversy, Henke thinks fit to assert categorically that the Rumuns descend from Trajan's colonists and political and other criminals banished to Dacia, the present population being essentially the old stock, in spite of all the waves of barbarous invasion which have swept over the Principalities.

*The Fifth Continent, with the Adjacent Islands.* By Charles H. Eden. (S.P.C.K.) From the various statements on the title-page, in the Preface, and the opening chapter of his book, Mr. Eden does not appear to have had a very clear perception of his object in compiling this little volume. He has generally drawn upon good material, and most of the chapters will afford some information to those who have not a special knowledge of the subject. The unreasonably long quotations from various authorities appear too much like padding, and, taken as a whole, the volume does not come up to our idea of a good popular description of our Australian colonies, which would have been very acceptable. Mr. Eden constantly impresses upon the reader that he has not space at his disposal for this, that and the other, and to this cause, we presume, must be attributed the entire absence of an index. The map, which appears to be a good one, is a redeeming feature in the volume.

MR. C. H. WALL's translation of Molière (George Bell and Sons) is now complete. The third and last volume fully deserves the praise which we have already accorded to its forerunners. Taken as a whole the translation is a remarkably solid, and at the same time finished, piece of work, and hits off the due mixture of readableness and faithfulness with great success. The new specimens of Mr. Wall's attempt to preserve the colour of the original by substituting English for French *patois* do not please us any better than his former attempts in this kind. But this is a detail, and one, too, as to which a difference of opinion is quite possible and allowable. If anyone desires to see a difficult task well performed let him read *M. de Pourceaugnac* in this version, and he must be hard to please if he be not satisfied. Equally good, and in a perfectly different style, is the rendering of *Les Femmes Savantes*. As for the *Malade Imaginaire*, even Mr. Wall's industrious audacity has quailed before the jargon of what Mr. Robert Buchanan, we suppose, would call the epilogue. There is fair precedent, however, for the rendering of macaronic French into English. Perhaps it was the matter rather than the language of the jargon which frightened Mr. Wall, and we do not know that this is much to be wondered at. Even the generation which can stand Romanèche in *Le Homard* might be inclined to put up its fan at the good wishes of the Apothecarius and the interesting narrative of the Eighth Doctor.

## NOTES AND NEWS.

MESSRS. GEORGE BELL AND SONS have an edition of Lessing's works in hand. The Dramatic Works complete, which have been in preparation for some time, will be published shortly after Christmas as two volumes in "Bohn's Standard Library," and will be followed after a short interval by a Selection from the Prose Works.

WE understand that the Rev. G. F. Maclear, D.D., head master of King's College School, whose class-books of Old and New Testament History are well known, is now engaged upon three larger books, designed for theological students and the higher forms in schools. These are:—(1) *An Introduction to Old Testament History*; (2) *An Introduction to the Gospel History*; (3) *The Apostolic History of the First Three Centuries*. Messrs. Macmillan and Co. will be the publishers.

MR. H. SWEET has in preparation two works on philology, in both of which some progress has been made. The one is entitled *Comparative Studies in the Living Teutonic Languages*, of which the first part will deal mainly with the formal side of language, especially the general laws of sound-change, and kindred questions, such as the influence of sound-change on inflection and morphological structure, &c. The numerous comparative tables will give a large amount of information on the actual living forms in the Teutonic languages which is otherwise inaccessible to the ordinary student. The other work treats of the *Practical Study of Language*. It consists of a criticism of the present system from a phonetic and logical point of view, followed by a sketch of a rational system based on the general laws of association, in which various modifications of the present grammar system are advocated, together with the abandonment of dictionaries in teaching languages, and the substitution of a methodical study of word-meanings. Other collateral subjects are treated of, among which may be mentioned the comparative value of ancient and modern languages for training the mind.

THE committee of the Bristol Museum and Library have arranged for a course of nine lectures on subjects in science, literature, and art to be delivered during the coming winter in their lecture-theatre, by Mr. A. R. Wallace, Dr. Ball, Dr. J. H. Gladstone, Dr. Hudson, Prof. Rowley, Prof. Marshall, Prof. Williamson, Mr. Frederick Wedmore, and Mr. Norman Lockyer.

MR. FRANCIS TREVITHICK, third son of Richard Trevithick, the ingenious but ill-fated Cornish engineer, died at Penzance on October 27, in his sixty-sixth year. Mr. Trevithick inherited much of the mechanical spirit of his father, and, after his retirement from active life, occupied himself in preparing a memorial of his father's talents and misfortunes. The work was published in two volumes in 1872, and contained great additions to the biographical information on English engineers already collected by the industry of Mr. Smiles.

THE Early English Text Society has this week sent out to its members Mr. Skeat's Notes, complete, to his edition of the three versions of William's *Vision concerning Piers the Plowman*; Prof. J. E. B. Mayor's edition—the first collected one—of the English works of Bp. Fisher, with autotypes from Wynkyn de Worde's edition of the Sermon against Luther; Part III. of Mr. Furnivall's edition of Lancelotti's englished *History of the Holy Grail*, from the unique MS. ab. 1440 A.D.; and Mr. Skeat's Part III. of his edition of Barbour's *Bruce*, containing the completion of the Text, with Glossary, Indexes, &c. No other books will be issued this year. Four are nearly ready for 1878.

PROF. BREWER has resigned his Professorship of English Language and Literature at King's College, London. Mr. John W. Hales, M.A., of



Christ's College, Cambridge, the editor of Milton's *Areopagitica*, *Longer English Poems*, &c., who has long had the highest English Classes in King's College School, and is one of our best-known Lecturers on English Literature, has been appointed to fill Prof. Brewer's post for the present term, and is, we hear, a candidate for the vacant chair.

THE treasures of Goethe literature have received a new accession in the carefully-preserved collection of letters left behind by Fritz Schlosser, which has just been published at Stuttgart under the editorship of Dr. Julius Frese. Goethe's correspondence with Schlosser, though originally concerned only with business, gained gradually a warmer and more friendly character, and the forty-nine letters written to his old friend and fellow-townsmen between 1808 and 1830 are full of the various side interests of the poet's life in art, in science, in statesmanship, and in philosophy. Schlosser not only had charge of Goethe's money affairs at Frankfurt, but served also as a sort of middleman for the transference of engravings, pictures, coins, minerals, manuscripts, &c., some of them destined for the poet's own enjoyment, others for the use of his cherished library at Jena. Still more interesting material in the Schlosser legacy is a complete collection of Goethe's letters to Frau v. Laroche, the mother of the charming Maximiliane, and grandmother of Bettina. The "pearl," however, of the collection in Dr. Frese's eyes is a letter—the only one preserved—from Goethe to his mother, written on November 4, 1786, to announce the accomplishment of his hitherto concealed journey to Rome. "I have not much time for writing to-day, but I wanted that you should share my joy quickly." In addition to the letters, the volume contains two hitherto unpublished pictures—one a lithograph of a portrait painted by Goethe himself of Fritz Schlosser's father; the other a photograph of an oil painting of the poet by Kugelgen of Dresden, of the year 1810.

In January last we mentioned the appearance in Berlin of a new edition of Sir Walter Scott's novels, with woodcuts by P. Thumann, Eugen Klimsch, and G. Urlaub. This is now being issued in London by Messrs. Marcus Ward and Co. The series begins of course with *Waverley*; and there can be little doubt that, with its many attractions of type, illustrations, binding and general handiness, this edition will prove a general favourite. Though Messrs. Marcus Ward and Messrs. Grote of Berlin are the joint publishers, everything except the artists' work was, we believe, executed at the Royal Ulster Works, Belfast.

In the Bishop's Library at Linköping there has recently been discovered a MS. of 1680, which proves to be a very important addition to Swedish dramatic literature. Its title is "*Vitulus*;" or, the Merry Story of a Churl named Coraebus, and how he was Sold as a Calf." The piece, which is in five acts with an epilogue, is the work of Christoffer Moræus, a name hitherto unrecognized among Swedish poets, but who was warden of the High School in Nyköping from 1681 to 1689. It appears that during this period his pupils repeatedly acted his *Vitulus*, and the names of the young performers are preserved in the MS. The original idea is attributed to a Latin play, by a Cornelius Schoræus hitherto unheard of. A copy of the *Vitulus* has been made under the direction of Dr. Hanselli, the indefatigable editor of early Swedish literature, and will shortly be published at Upsala. The students of that university propose to perform the play, which is very sprightly, on their stage, in the exact costume of 1680.

THE English Dialect Society's publications for 1877 are almost ready for issue. They are five in number—namely, *A Glossary of Words in Use in the Wapentakes of Manley and Corringham, Lincolnshire*, by Mr. Edward Peacock; *A Glossary of Holderness Words*, the joint production

of Messrs. F. Ross, R. Stead, and T. Holderness, with a map of the district; a paper by Prince Louis-Lucien Bonaparte on the *Dialects of Eleven Southern and South-Western Counties*, with a new classification of the English dialects and two maps; an *Outline Grammar of the West Somerset Dialect*, by Mr. F. T. Elworthy; and the third part of the Society's Bibliographical List, edited by Mr. J. H. Nodal, the honorary secretary. The last-named work contains lists of books relating to the Scottish dialects, Anglo-Irish dialects, Slang and Cant, Americanisms, the English Gipsy dialect, the English language in India, the Anglo-Chinese dialect, and Additions to the English List, with an Index to the whole work. Prince Lucien Bonaparte has joined the committee of the Society during the year. The annual meeting will be held in the Old Town Hall, Manchester, about the middle of December.

By the death of Miss Julia Kavanagh at Nice on the 28th ult., English literature has been deprived of an accomplished novelist and a skilled writer of biography. She was the only child of Morgan Kavanagh, a gentleman of some note in his time as the author of curious books on the science and source of languages. Of Irish birth (she was born at Thurles in 1824), a residence in France for some years of her early life gave her a practical knowledge of the manners of French life and the traditions of French literature. In her twentieth year she returned to London, and at once entered upon literature as a profession. Her first work, entitled *Three Paths*, a simple story for children, appeared in 1847; but her first step in her new life was won by the publication in 1848 of *Madeleine, a Tale of Auvergne*. This was soon followed by *Women in France during the Eighteenth Century*. About 1853 she solaced her arduous labours by a lengthened visit to France, Switzerland, and Italy. The fruits of her travels were seen in 1858 on the appearance of *Summer and Winter in the Two Sicilies*. She again returned in 1862 to the familiar scenes of French literature with two volumes on *French Women of Letters*, and the favourable reception accorded to these volumes prompted the issue next year of a companion work on *Englishwomen of Letters*. It would be impossible even to mention the names of the novels from her pen which passed through the press in rapid succession. *Adele* (1858) and *Queen Mab* (1863) were probably the most popular. Many of them received the honour of more than one edition, and nearly all were republished and warmly welcomed in America. If her novels were not distinguished for depth of thought or profound grasp of character, they were all remarkable for gracefulness of style and much poetic feeling. Of Julia Kavanagh, if of few other English female novelists, it may be emphatically said that she left "no line which dying she could wish to blot."

THE discussion caused in Denmark by the voluntary exile of Dr. Brandes, of which we recently gave an account, has increased to such an extent as to put every other topic into the shade. All the Danish newspapers are full of nothing else than the question of the toleration of free thought in literature. An amount of fanaticism almost incredible has been poured along the conventional channels of journalism, and the names of Darwin and Herbert Spencer have been shrieked out with mingled hatred and terror. At the present moment the condition of public intelligence in Denmark is proved by this controversy to be lamentably low, but Dr. Brandes and his little army of scientific thinkers may take heart, for this universal ventilation of liberal ideas will provoke curiosity, and no younger generation is likely to repeat the old-fashioned experiment of trying to silence modern thought by exiling the most instructed thinkers. For the rest of Europe, at the same time, the University of Copenhagen presents a ludicrous spectacle of timorous obscurantism.

MR. EDMUND W. GOSSE's study on Swinburne, originally published in *Det nittende Aarhundrede*, has been recently appearing in successive numbers of the *Allgemeine Zeitung*, translated by Dr. Adolph Strodtmann, the biographer of Heine.

IN Bjornson's new novel, *Magnhild*, prominence is given to the following elegant citation from Keats:—

"Shed no tear! O shed no tear!  
The flower will bloom another year.  
Weep no more! Weep no more!  
Young buds sleep in the roots with core!"

THE last number of the *Osszehasonlító Irodalomtörténelmi Lapok* contains a short account of the tragic death of George Browning, the author of *Footprints*, and of several translations and other studies from the *Edda* and the Icelandic sagas. He died in a fit of delirium at Sáromberke, the country seat of Count Teleki. Among the poetical contents of this journal we find a couple of folksongs in the dialect of the Transylvanian gipsies. Mr. Butler is continuing his translations from Vörösmarty, and contributes a very close rendering of "Szép Ilonka," as well as a shorter piece by Carl Szász, the critical writer. The *Osszehasonlító Irodalomtörténelmi Lapok* also announces the preparation of a Magyar translation by Franz Mihalik de Madunitz of Kant's *Kritik der reinen Vernunft*, the first that has yet appeared in Hungarian.

A NEW German translation of the works of Háfiz seems at first sight a superfluity. Herr Bodenstedt, however, who has just published at Berlin, under the title *Der Sänger von Schiras*, a collection of the old Persian's songs, has some claims to attention over the numerous poets and philologists who have been inspired by Goethe's "Westöstlicher Divan." In the first place Bodenstedt is a master of poetic forms, as readers of the *Songs of Mirza-Schaffy* know; and in the second place he understands Persian. The volume is not a complete transcription of the works of Háfiz, but contains a selection from them. As the compiler wisely remarks in his Preface, "the whole of Háfiz would be to a German as indigestible a morsel as the whole of Goethe to a Persian. In the works even of the greatest poets there is much which can find full appreciation only in their own country, and there, too, among but a comparatively small circle."

WE noticed a few weeks ago a French rendering by M. Dozon of some of Petöfi's works. It appears that the Spaniards are also taking up the subject. Don Ramon L. Mainez, the editor of the *Crónica de los Cervantistas*, published at Cadiz, is undertaking translations from the great Magyar poet. These will be the first that have yet appeared in the Spanish language. In earnest of his future work the *Periódico para la Historia de las Literaturas Comparadas* publishes a clever rendering by him of "A dal" (the Song), one of Petöfi's most graceful shorter pieces. Don Ramon L. Mainez has lately edited a Life of Cervantes, wherein he accuses Lope de Vega of being Avellaneda, the spiteful continuer of the first book of *Don Quixote*. This accusation he has promised to circumstantiate in a future study on the subject.

WE are informed that an important discovery has just been made by Dr. De Villiers, of Marylebone Road, who is preparing for publication by engraving and photography a facsimile edition of Gutenberg's Bible in two folio volumes. In the course of his researches Dr. De Villiers has discovered Gutenberg's signature on the back of a Letter of Indulgence dated 1454. An exact facsimile is being prepared, and will be issued shortly by Messrs. Kerby and Endean, of 190 Oxford Street, with a pamphlet tracing its history and giving many interesting particulars concerning the origin of printing.

## NOTES OF TRAVEL.

THE November part of the *Geographical Magazine* contains the third of a series of most important papers by the editor, on the subject of irrigation in Southern India, the present one being devoted to the basin of the Cauvery river. After this appropriately follows an article on the present famine in South India, illustrated by a map on which the varying degree of distress in different districts is shown by gradations of colour as well as by statistical tables. The famine is the direct result of the failure of the water-supply, and presents the most convincing demonstration of the vast importance of a thorough and complete system of irrigation and storage of water in those far regions in which the monsoon rains are precarious. Major Raverty contributes some notes on Quetta and the Afghans; he points out that Quetta cannot be looked upon as the key of the Bolan Pass, since the pass can be turned and avoided in several directions, and characterises our recent occupation of it as a "mistaken move." Lieut. King, of the Bombay Staff Corps, supplies an excellent description of the little islet of Perim, which guards the southern entrance of the Red Sea for Britain.

CAPTAIN PALANDER, the officer who commanded the *Polhem* and wintered on the north coast of Spitzbergen in the Swedish Arctic Expedition of 1872-73, sends a detailed account of the proposed Swedish Expedition of 1878, to which we referred a few weeks ago. The whaling steamer *Vega* has been bought for the expedition, and will be provisioned for two or three years. Prof. Nordenskiöld is chief of the expedition; Louis Palander, captain of the *Vega*; and there will be besides two mates, a surgeon, and three or four scientific men. The expedition will sail from Gothenburg about July 1, 1878, for Tromsø or Hammarfest, thence for Matotschin Shar (Strait) in Novaia Zemlia and the Yenisei, and from that to Cape Chelyuskin, the northernmost point of Asia, round which no craft has yet passed. If Behring Strait can be reached, the vessel will sail thence to some Asiatic port.

As a supplement to a pamphlet on the claims of Portugal to the territories lying north and south of the estuary of the River Congo in West Africa, referred to in the *ACADEMY* of March last (p. 205), a translation of a memorial by the Viscount de Sa da Bandeira relating to the same rights and territories has now been issued (London: Fitch, St. Mary-Axe). It deals with the history of the Portuguese expeditions and conquests in this part of Africa, the treaties and conventions entered into with England and France, the slave-trade and lawful commerce of the coast, and especially with the examination of the questions raised by the Portuguese occupation of Ambriz in 1855.

By the last mail from Zanzibar news was received from the Nyanza Expedition up to June 16. Lieut. Smith was then at Ukerewe Island, and was just about to cross Lake Victoria to Karagüe.

WE understand that the South Australian Government have recently despatched an expedition to explore some of the unknown districts of the northern territory of that colony. The principal objects of the expedition are to make a thorough survey of the Herbert River and its tributaries, and to examine and report on the neighbouring country on the borders of Queensland. The party, which is in charge of Mr. H. V. Barclay, consists of eight persons, and is well equipped with instruments, &c. They were to proceed to their destination by way of the Alice Springs, and it was hoped that they would be able to commence operations in the course of the present month.

AN interesting little brochure, entitled *The Dyerie Tribe of Australian Aborigines*, by Mr. S. Gason, which was published at Adelaide some

time back, has newly reached us. The tribe, which is said to be fast dying out, inhabits a district some 630 miles north of Adelaide, through which Cooper's Creek runs. Mr. Gason furnishes an account of the manners and customs and character of the race, the country they inhabit, their rites, ceremonies, and superstitions, and their social usages and laws, as well as a catalogue of animals, weapons, and ornaments found among them. He also adds examples of the construction of the dialect spoken by them, together with a complete vocabulary.

ON October 6 we mentioned that Mr. E. Colborne Baber was about to undertake a journey through the western districts of the Chinese province of Szechuen. In a private letter, dated July 26, which has lately reached Shanghai, Mr. Baber describes himself as drifting down the river Min, among low hills covered with fir and insect-wax trees. To the south-west, he says, an enormous mass of rock thrusts its head and shoulders above the clouds. This he first descried from a distance of more than sixty miles, and he knew it at once to be the holy mountain of Omi on the borders of Thibet. As Mr. Baber expresses his determination to reach its summit, we may expect to have before long an interesting account of his adventures.

THE Rev. Joseph J. Curling, of the Bay of Islands, Newfoundland, is bringing out, through Mr. Stanford, of Charing Cross, a map of Newfoundland and part of Labrador. Though this map has been prepared mainly for diocesan purposes, it will doubtless prove to be of service to the general student.

LIEUTENANT CONDER has found among the lists of the Palestine Survey the place named by the Jews as the site of Joshua's tomb, Kefr Haris. It appears on Van de Velde's map as Kefr Harit. The place is venerated both by Jews and Samaritans as containing the tomb of Joshua, and it contains two sacred places, one of them called the *Nebi Kif*, "Prophet of the division by lot." The place spoken of by Jerome, and proposed by Dr. Eli Smith, Tibneh, is about six miles from Kefr Haris. Lieutenant Conder thinks that the great tomb shown there may be no earlier than the first century.

IN a recent communication to the Royal Swedish Academy Prof. Nordenskiöld gives an account of the voyages which have been made during the past season along the trade route through the Siberian Arctic seas which he first opened out a few years ago. Four expeditions have crossed the Kara Sea this season on their way to and from Siberia, two of these being continuations of voyages which began last year. The first of these was that of Captain Wiggins, who started in 1876, purposing to explore the southern narrow part of the Yalmal or Samoied peninsula, with a view to ascertaining whether this isthmus could be cut through by a canal which would connect the Kara Bay with the Gulf of Obi. After inspecting the isthmus, Captain Wiggins went north round Cape Golovin; but, being prevented by contrary winds from entering the Obi gulf, he sailed to the Yenisei, and ascending it for nearly 700 miles left his ship for the winter in the Kureyka river, a tributary of the Yenisei, not far from the Arctic circle. He thence travelled south ashore to one of the Russian settlements, and returning in spring found his vessel frozen-in and buried in snow. After hard work he succeeded in getting the ship afloat, but she went aground in the Yenisei and had to be abandoned. M. Bojling, a Swedish merchant, had undertaken to remove the cargo of wares left by Prof. Nordenskiöld last year at Korepovsk, a Russian settlement on the right bank of the Yenisei, in 71° 21' N., and to take them up river to Yeniseisk, and had built a small vessel for that purpose. Having come to an agreement with the owners of the Yenisei steamers, however, for the transport of the goods, he sold his vessel to Mr. Seebohm,

an English ornithologist. Mr. Seebohm set out up stream in Bojling's ship and soon met Mr. Wiggins, as well as M. Svanenberg, a Russian captain, who was engaged by the Siberian merchant M. Sidoroff for a cruise from Siberia to Europe, and who was in charge of a ship built purposely at Yeniseisk, and loaded with Siberian graphite. This ship, named the *Northern Light*, had descended the Yenisei for a distance of about 1,300 miles, and reached the Bryukhov islands in the estuary of the river (70° 40' N.); but there M. Svanenberg found it necessary to leave the vessel and return overland to St. Petersburg to obtain the means of fitting out a more efficient expedition. During his absence the *Northern Light* was wrecked, and scurvy attacked the crew, so that when he returned at the end of winter with a new crew, one man alone remained alive of the five he had left. As already stated, Messrs. Wiggins and Seebohm, together with their crews, were now on board Bojling's small ship, and Captain Wiggins urged that, however unseaworthy the vessel was, it would be best to try to make their way through the Kara Sea to Norway; but the crew formally refused, and M. Svanenberg arriving at that time, the ship was sold to him. Svanenberg in turn tried to put Captain Wiggins' idea into practice, and, re-naming the little vessel the *Morning Dawn*, sailed northwards. Never before has such a wretched boat ventured into the Arctic seas; still, the voyage ended happily, and in September M. Svanenberg reached Vardö, in Norway. On leaving the Yenisei, Svanenberg met the steamer *Fraser*, which left Bremen with a cargo of sugar, tobacco, &c., on July 25. She had passed the Yugor Strait, between Waigatz Island and the mainland, and thence went direct to the White Island, without meeting ice, and from that straight to Golchikha, the most northern settlement on the banks of the Yenisei. The *Fraser* left the Yenisei again on September 14, and Captain Dallman took the more northern route through the Matotschin Shar (the strait separating the large islands of Novaia Zemlia), and on this line also met with no ice except in the strait, and soon reached Norway. Deducting some short delays, the whole voyage from the Yenisei to Norway was made in six days and eight hours. The importance of the short communication is shown by the great difference in price between wheat, rye, and barley in Siberia and in Norway. A fourth expedition, sent by M. Trapeznikoff, a Moscow merchant, in the steamer *Louise*, left England some time before the departure of the *Fraser*, reached the mouth of the Obi, and steamed thence up that river and the Irtysh to Tobolsk, a distance of over a thousand miles by river. Thus the Kara Sea proves to be a very practicable highway, the importance of which will be better understood if we take into account that the Siberian rivers are navigable for seagoing ships as far south, for instance, as Tobolsk, in 58° N., and that they all flow through the fertile tracts of Southern Siberia.

THE scheme proposed by the Arctic explorer Lieutenant Weyprecht for establishing a sort of chain of observing-stations round the zone of the Arctic Regions forms the subject of an interesting article by M. Gravier in the *Bulletin* of the Paris Geographical Society. The writer summarises the more important discoveries which have been made in magnetism, in the theory of ocean currents, and in the natural history, particularly the mammalia, the ornithology, the ichthyology, botany, and geology of the Arctic Regions, and argues that systematic and continuous observations in these different branches of knowledge would lead to valuable scientific results.

## MAGAZINES AND REVIEWS.

A SMART article in the *Contemporary Review*, by Mr. Alfred Austin, picks what Sir Lucius O'Trigger would call "a very pretty quarrel" with Prof. Shairp anent his recent work on the *Poetic Inter-*



pretation of Nature, demurring to the appropriateness of its title; maintaining that it is not the poets who have found out what Nature has to say to us, for each interprets her oracle in a way most pleasing to himself; and protesting, in short, that there must be "no doctrine of sacerdotalism in poetry." Another notable literary paper in this number is Dr. James Donaldson's scholarly and comprehensive study of "The Characters of Plautus," which surveys the history of the text and the author, and dwells with equal research and liveliness on the plots and *dramatis personæ* of the latter. Among plays edited by English scholars he has omitted two—the *Trinummus* and *Miles Gloriosus*, edited in 1853 for Messrs. J. G. Parker and Son, with short notes, by Dr. Hubert Holden of Ipswich; and perhaps he underrates the interest in Plautus which English classical scholars would testify, were there corresponding spirit and enterprise in publishers. A second paper on "Signs of the Times," devoted to "Fashionable Farces," affords a means of assessing the material which modern managers borrow from the Palais Royal, and comparing its uncleanness with that of Plautus and Terence to the credit of the latter. Dr. Alexander Bain propounds a total change of the Civil Service Examination scheme, *qua* Greek and Latin translation marks, which he would abolish directly, and only tolerate in so far as classical knowledge can command indirect value in the examination for English. The sciences, as a whole, are to be set on the highest pinnacle, English composition next, and the "humanities"—i.e. "the department of institutions and history," with "perhaps literature"—to come third. Other noteworthy papers are Mr. St. John Tyrwhitt's "Greek Art at Rome," and Mr. Goldwin's Smith's examination of the parallel between "The Slave-owner and the Turk."

In the *Fortnightly Review* Mr. Mark Pattison's lecture on "Books and Critics" is so racy, true, and rich in humour and observation, as to deserve first mention. Of its dry humour the backward glance (just as we trace back our civilisation to the cave-man) "at the ancestral author-ape from whom is descended the accomplished and highly-paid leader-writer of 1877, who sits for a county, and 'the honour of whose company' dukes solicit," may serve as a sample; while the survey of our periodical literature so rapidly superseding that of books, and the curious fact and paradox of literary history, that Germany, the world's schoolmaster in learning the classic models of style and language, is so utterly destitute of the literary style and form which the French pre-eminently command "at the cost of total ignorance of all that is not written in French," are instructive as well as amusing instances of the writer's acute observation. Almost as readable is Miss Octavia Hill's plea for "The Future of our Commons," a social paper which impresses the urgency of fighting in the next session, not for allotment schemes or other minor and less pressing movements, but for keeping intact the commons and open spaces, which, unenclosed, are the people's heritage, giving a share in his country to the poorest citizen. Mr. Lowe's article on the "Value to the United Kingdom of the Foreign Dominions of the Crown" seems designed to prepare the minds of readers for parting with India—"our greatest, our only serious danger"—with equanimity, when the time comes; and the second instalment of Nassau Senior's "Conversations with M. Thiers" includes a curious account of the abdication of Louis Philippe. The editor, upon the second of his "Three Books of the Eighteenth Century," *Raynal's History of the Indies*, gives an interesting sketch of that shrewd and industrious historical and political writer, the Abbé Raynal, an entertaining compiler rather than philosophical historian; and Prof. Tyndall's Presidential Address on "Science and Man" is here reprinted *in extenso*.

To those readers who are neither politicians nor addicted to scientific studies Mr. Archibald

Forbes's candid and outspoken testimony as to his experience of "The Russians, Turks, and Bulgarians" at the theatre of war will give the current number of the *Nineteenth Century* a livelier interest than Mr. Gladstone's answer to Mr. Lowe on the County Franchise, or Mr. Norman Lockyer and Prof. Hunter on "Sunspots and Famines." As the frank, unvarnished statement of a special correspondent of the highest standing, fulfilling his duty of speaking truth at the cost of a great sacrifice, Mr. Forbes's estimate of the relative worth of the Turkish and the Russian soldiers; of the relative humanity of Turk and Russian in his experience; of the speculation and favouritism which eat into and demoralise the Russian military system, despite the cognisance of the Emperor, who is powerless, though a true patriot, to cleanse the Augean stable; of the cardinal errors of the Turks, in appealing with bad faith to the Geneva Convention, and against sound war precedent, omitting to lay waste Bulgaria when they left it open to the invader; and of the Bulgarian, for whom he has the least sympathy of the trio, quoting some rather epigrammatic expressions of his *soldisant* "deliverers"—deserves to be widely read, as throwing novel light upon the burning topic of the day. Colonel George Chesney's lucid paper "On Indian Famines," and the ways to anticipate and prevent them by the wider application of railways, and irrigation (by canals and reservoirs on a grand scale)—the latter to ensure the crops against the incidence of drought; the former to develop the transit, not only of occasional relief, but also of India's growing wheat supply—ranks second in interest to the paper noticed above. "A Morning with Auguste Comte," by Sir Erskine Perry, is a pleasant interviewing of the founder of a religious system instinct with benevolence and self-complacency; and Mr. Froude brings to a brilliant and graphic finish his "Life and Times of Thomas Becket," combining a choice selection from the crowd of miracles wrought at the martyr's shrine and by St. Thomas's water, with particulars of Henry II.'s substantial service of atonement to the Pope, and *bona fide* penance at Canterbury on his return to England. In a welcome *résumé* of "Recent Literature"—a feature in the *Nineteenth Century* long looked for, and, we trust, soon to be recurring to—Professor Morley devotes some fair and just criticism to Prof. Shairp's *Poetic Interpretation of Nature*, and to Mr. W. Morris's last poem, *The Story of Sigurd the Volsung*.

*Macmillan's Magazine*, this month, opens with a sketch from life of M. Thiers by Emily Crawford, the result of frequent interviewing on the one part, and of self-complacent communicativeness on the other. The hero of it seems to have traced his career from his school-days—which were averse to classical reading and to all foreign languages not akin to his mother-tongue—to his removal to the law-school at Aix, and, after a call to the bar there, his migration to Paris, where, his poverty interfering with forensic pursuits, he had to betake himself to journalism and art-criticism. From that occupation, with the variety of a couple of duels, he is followed up to the publication, in parts, of his *History of the Revolution*, and other literary and historical achievements; and a light is thrown, unfavourable to the Orleans princes, upon the reign and abdication of Louis Philippe, who is represented as true to his children above all else. Of the paper by Gustav Hirschfeld on the "Discoveries at Olympia" we had something to say last week; and Prof. E. H. Palmer's notice of M. de Mohl's *Shah-Naméh*, the Persian epic—of which M. de Mohl is now editing a popular edition, and the incidents of which Matthew Arnold borrowed for his "Sohrab and Rustum"—is so succinct that it may be easily read. Mr. T. H. Wright has some rather general remarks on the problem of "Style," and Sir Rutherford Alcock recalls us to "African Exploration and its Results." In the way of poetry *Macmillan's* gives a homely poem from Whitby, entitled "Me and my

Mate," but has admitted in "My Pet Corn" some quatrains that are beneath its calibre.

In the *Dublin University Magazine* "Our Portrait Gallery" contains this month the veteran painter, John Linnell, Senior, whose honourable career as artist and writer is traced up to his birth in the neighbourhood of the British Museum, his articles to the father of the English school of water-colours, John Varley, and his early intimacy with Holman Hunt and Mulready. There is much interest in the data given about his pictures, his prices, and his patrons; but we may be excused for doubting whether the world is the better or the worse for being enlightened as to his religious tenets. Mortimer Collins's daughter contributes a nice notice of Thoreau, the American hermit and thinker, which associates him pleasantly with his kindred spirit, Hawthorne, and quotes from him "A Battle of the Ants," that would have interested Traherne Moggridge, and should commend his life to Sir John Lubbock. K. M. C. communicates a lengthy paper on the "Journalism and Poetry of Mortimer Collins," which does not err on the side of blindness to his crying fault of making light nights and outrunning the constable, but does err in anticipating the "best final selection from the relics of his Muse," by multiplying samples of his too facile poetry according as they come uppermost. The continuation of "Indian Anomalies" is curiously worth reading; as is also "A Day in the House of Correction."

It is not often that the *Church Quarterly* can be accused of anything like a breach of good taste or good feeling, but the reproduction in an article on Dean Mansel of an American "interview" with Mr. Carlyle comes very near to incurring these names. There are some things which may perhaps bear to be said, but which will not bear to be printed. One sentence in particular strikes us as little short of a positive libel; and the whole is a mere repetition of vulgar outcry which is especially out of place in an article that lays some claim to be considered philosophical. A much more reasonable estimate of the theory of evolution is to be found in a review of Dr. Abbott's *Through Nature to Christ*. Another apologetic article on the Book of Deuteronomy may be left to the Old Testament critics. In a learned discussion on the residence of Wyclif at Oxford it is maintained, in opposition to the late Professor Shirley, that the Warden of Canterbury Hall is the same person as the Reformer, or, at least, that there is no sufficient evidence to the contrary. The number also contains a survey (naturally from the *Church Quarterly* point of view) of the present condition and prospects of the Church of Ireland; and two elaborate articles on Confession, the one treating the subject historically and legally, the other with reference to its place in the Church's system.

#### PARIS LETTER.

Paris: October 31, 1877.

Amid the political agitations that now prevail only one book has attracted attention and excited a passionate interest in the public mind, *L'Histoire d'un Crime* (Lévy); more than a hundred thousand copies of which have already been sold. Public events themselves have not given birth to any book or pamphlet destined to live. One anonymous publication, however, deserves mention, entitled *Du 16 Mai au 2 Septembre: Notes à consulter* (Fischbacher). It is very well done, and deserves to be preserved, because it gives a full and particular account of the violent and arbitrary acts and insane policy of the Ministry of May 16. It is likewise full of life and spirit, and the mottoes of the several chapters are specially piquant.

In the midst of the tumult of the electoral contest, nevertheless, we have seen a literary quarrel spring up. M. L. Veillot took advantage of the hubbub to gratify his old grudge against

Molière, whom he has never forgiven for writing *Tartufe*, or even, perhaps, for having made game of Trissotin. He has therefore published a ponderous pamphlet, *Molière et Bourdaloue* (Palmé), in which there is not a trace of the once vigorous talent of the author of the *Libres Penseurs*. He rakes up old calumnies about the life of Molière which have been refuted a hundred times over, and gives himself the easy pleasure of showing that Bourdaloue preached a severer morality from his pulpit than Molière in his plays. M. de la Pommeraye, the dramatic critic of the *France*, who has made himself a reputation by the new device of giving, under the name of *feuilleton parlé*, lectures on new plays, has taken up the defence of Molière. His reply is called *Molière et Bossuet* (Ollendorf), and treats M. Veuillot's ridiculous attacks as they deserve. He goes rather too far in attempting to make Molière the type of a virtuous man, and his plays the best school of virtue. Molière had no such exalted pretensions. Let us be satisfied with regarding him as an honest man whose works are healthy and powerful. Did M. Veuillot, moreover, deserve an answer? Does not a man pass judgment on himself when he feels offended and shocked by so simple and truthful a portrayal of the vices and follies of humanity?

Besides this rather too retrospective controversy on a question decided long ago, I must mention a book that possesses real originality; a volume of historical scenes entitled *La Renaissance* (Plon), by Comte de Gobineau. Your attention has before been directed to this distinguished writer, who made use of his long residence as ambassador in Persia to study as a scholar and an artist the history and the customs of the East. He has made an equally careful and comprehensive study of the Italy of the sixteenth century, and draws a wonderfully true and graphic picture of it in a series of historical scenes wherein he makes all the great personages of the time, Savonarola, Caesar Borgia, Julius II., Leo X., and Michelangelo pass in review before us. I do not know whether readers little versed in the historical facts would find these scenes sufficiently clear and intelligible, or whether they could readily appreciate the subtlety of the psychological observations and the accuracy of the drawing; but the well-informed reader takes genuine delight in them, and enjoys seeing characters with which he is already more or less familiar so truthfully and boldly delineated. The colour and style of the time are admirably rendered, and there is something almost Shaksperian in the treatment of some of the scenes—for instance, those in which Caesar Borgia and Savonarola appear.

But who has time now to read disinterested studies like these on art and history? And yet some valorous little literary reviews are endeavouring to awaken or keep alive a taste for poetry and letters. One of them, it is true, M. Collignon's *Vie Littéraire*, swims with the current, and under the guise of literature devotes itself entirely to politics, or, at any rate, political men. The other, the *Courrier Littéraire*, published by Fischbacher, and edited by M. Colani, has remained more faithful to pure literature. At another time it would have enjoyed a brilliant success; it publishes charming tales, pretty verses, solid literary studies, and, above all, the fortnightly literary review, by M. Colani himself, is the best bit of literary criticism, both as regards vigorous thought and good writing, that is now published in France. Yet the number of the readers of the *Courrier Littéraire* is still very small.

Not only literature, but science likewise, suffers from the excess of political preoccupations, and especially from the Ministerial changes. The educational reforms begun by M. Waddington have been abruptly cut short; he had time, notwithstanding, to found two new Chairs in the Faculty of Letters, that of Sanskrit literature, filled by M. Bergaigne, and that of Old French, which was conferred on M. Darmesteter. Both the new Professors come from the Ecole des

Hautes Etudes, which proves how important is the position which this young school already occupies in the field of higher education. M. Waddington was likewise able, before leaving office, to found a Faculty of Protestant Theology, intended, in a measure, to replace the old Faculty of Strasbourg. M. Lichtenberger, the editor of the great *Encyclopédie des Sciences Religieuses*, who does such honour to French Protestantism, has been placed at the head of the new Faculty. Among the Professors is M. Sabatier, perhaps the most distinguished of our French theologians since M. Colani gave up theology. It is hardly necessary to dwell on the importance of this step, which founds a Protestant theological school in Paris on the same footing as our other great schools, and side by side with the Faculty of Catholic Theology. There is no doubt that the close contact of Protestant theological study will be of great benefit to the higher studies generally. The scientific movement which regenerated historical and philological science in Germany was due to sacred criticism, and theology always furnishes those sciences with zealous and painstaking students. The new Faculty will, there is no doubt, be animated by a very liberal spirit, seeing that such names as those of MM. Ph. Berger and Maurice Vernes are connected with it, both of whom belong to the critical and almost negative school. It will no doubt be the first to introduce the Privat-Docent system into France. We may hope there to hear M. de Pressensé teach Ecclesiastical History, or possibly M. Secrétan give a course of Philosophy. If the latter could come to Paris, he would be sure, I think, of a large audience, including our most distinguished philosophical writers, for M. Secrétan's works have been much read and studied in France of late years, in spite of their retaining something slightly provincial and Vaudois in form. I am not one of those who adopt his conclusions, but lately, in the *Discours laïques*, delivered at Lausanne, which he has just published (Fischbacher), I once more had occasion to admire his logical power, his originality of thought, and his admirable sincerity. His discussion against Herbert Spencer, more especially, is conducted with great vigour; and, if he does not succeed as he would wish in reconciling reason with experience, he is very successful in showing what is narrow and incomplete in his adversaries' point of view. Added to this he is a subtle psychologist, a moralist abounding in humour, and now and then a really great writer. His lecture on Happiness, in which he shows that happiness is only to be found on condition of its not being sought, is full of depth and originality. Is not this opening passage striking and beautiful?—"On m'a demandé de vous parler ce soir du bonheur. Pourquoi ce mot rend-il un son si triste? Est-ce le désespoir de l'atteindre, la crainte qu'il ne s'enfuit, le regret de l'avoir perdu? Je ne sais, mais quelle que soit votre situation, vous répéterez cette expérience, vous verrez qu'à parler bonheur, la gaieté s'en va."

Another theologian whom we would gladly have drawn to Paris, but who, unfortunately, will never leave his beloved Strasbourg, is M. Reuss. He has, however, shown that he still regards himself as a French theologian by publishing his great work on *La Bible* (Fischbacher) in our language. Six volumes have already appeared, comprising the synoptic Gospels, the Prophets, the Acts of the Apostles, and the historical and poetical books of the Old Testament. It is the summing-up of the work of a lifetime, a monument of science and thought. Elaborate introductions preface the translation, which is accompanied by a complete commentary on the words and the ideas. It is a Biblical Encyclopedia in the true sense of the word. The style, we regret to say, is often defective, and the critical solutions sometimes a little timid; but the latter fault, proving as it does an excess of scruple, will only give this masterly work more authority.

I must not close my letter without a farewell greeting to two poets who have recently died. The first was a popular poet, Gustave Mathieu, who for a time had shared the popularity of Pierre Dupont as a song-writer. In 1848, he made himself in *Jean Raisin* the echo of the democratic aspirations of the day. He wrote with simple and natural *verve* and no little grace. The other poet we have lately lost was a M<sup>me</sup>. Pène, better known as "Louisa Siefert." She earned a brief renown, a few years ago, by the publication of a volume of verse entitled *Rayons Perdus*, in which she told with heart-breaking emotion the bitter experiences of a blighted life and an unrequited love. These verses, which were not written for the public, owed their success to their frank eloquence, their poetic and impulsive utterance. Since then M<sup>lle</sup>. Siefert had improved her style and sobered her form, but, having become a literary woman and a writer, she lost the true and heartrending accents to which she owed her short hour of celebrity. G. MONOD.

#### SELECTED BOOKS.

##### General Literature.

- DRASCHE, R. v. Die Insel Réunion (Bourbon) im Indischen Ocean. Wien: Hölder. 20 M.  
GIFFEN, B. Stock Exchange Securities. Bell. 8s. 6d.  
GRINDON, L. H. Manchester Banks and Bankers. Simpkin, Marshall & Co. 6s.  
MARNO, E. Reise in der ägyptischen Aequatorial-Provinz u. in Korofan in den J. 1874-1876. Wien: Hölder. 15 M.  
PIEBKE, E. L. The Life and Letters of the Hon. Charles Sumner. Sampson Low & Co. 36s.  
STACHELBERG, O. M. v. Bilder aus dem Leben der Neugriechen. Dresden: G. Ibers. 20 M.  
SULLIVAN, A. M. New Ireland. Sampson Low & Co. 30s.

##### History.

- BOEHLINGK, A. Napoleon Bonaparte, seine Jugend u. sein Emporkommen bis zum 13. Vendémiaire. Jena: Frommann. 5 M.

##### Physical Science and Philosophy.

- BEITRÄGE zur Anthropologie u. Urgeschichte Bayerns. Red. J. Ranke u. N. Rüdinger. 1. Bd. München: Literarisch-artistische Anstalt. 24 M.  
COHEN, H. Kant's Begründung der Ethik. Berlin: Dümmler. 6 M.  
FRIES, E. Icones selectae hymenomycetum nondum delineatorum. Vol. II. Fasc. 1. Stockholm: Samson & Wallin. 13s.  
MANZONI, A. I briziosi fossili del miocene d'Austria ed Ungheria. Wien: Gerold's Sohn. 8 M.  
REYER, G. Beitrag zur Physik der Eruptionen u. der Eruptiv-Gesteine. Wien: Hölder. 12 M.

##### Philology, &c.

- BERGMANN, E. v. Das Buch vom Durchwandeln der Ewigkeit. Nach dem Papyrus 29 der k. k. ägypt. Sammlg. in Wien. Wien: Gerold's Sohn. 2 M.  
LINDNER, B. Altindische Nominalbildung. Nach dem Samhitâs dargestellt. Jena: Costenoble. 5 M. 40 Pf.  
MEISTER, J. H. Die Flexion im Oxforder Psalter. Halle: Lippert. 3 M. 60 Pf.  
NIPPERDEI, C. opuscula. Berlin: Weidmann. 12 M.  
REVILLIOT, E. Le Roman de Setna: étude philologique et critique. Paris: Leroux. 15 fr.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

##### THE "ORIGINAL DRAFT" OF THE "CHRISTIAN YEAR."

Bisley Vicarage, Stroud: Nov. 6, 1877.

An announcement has appeared in your columns that Mr. Elliot Stock is about to produce by photography a facsimile of what purports to be "the original draft" of the *Christian Year*. Permit me to say that the MS. volume in question is one of many in which my uncle wrote his verses.

The only complete autograph copy of the *Christian Year* is in my possession; but there are, scattered about, many transcripts of various poems made by the author in the albums of his intimate friends. T. KEBLE.

#### APPOINTMENTS FOR NEXT WEEK.

- MONDAY, November 12.—8.30 P.M. Royal Geographical Society: The President's Opening Address; M. Broyon-Mirambo's Description of Unyamwezi, and the best Route thither from the East Coast of Africa.  
TUESDAY, November 13.—8 P.M. Anthropological Institute: "The Spread of the Slaves," I., by H. H. Howorth; "Mori Castellieri," by Capt. R. F. Burton.  
8 P.M. Civil Engineers: "Review of the Progress of Steam Shipping during the last Quarter-of-a-Century," by Alfred Holt.



THURSDAY, November 15.—8 P.M. Linnean: "The Insects collected by Capt. Feilding and Mr. Hart during the recent Arctic Expedition," by R. McLachlan; "The Surface Fauna of the Arctic Seas," by Dr. E. L. Moss; "The Annelids of the English North Polar Expedition, 1875-6," by Dr. W. C. McIntosh; "On certain Organs of the Cidaridae," by C. Stewart.

8 P.M. Chemical: "Gallium," by Prof. Odling; "First Report on some Points in Chemical Dynamics," by Dr. Wright and Mr. Luff; "On the Influence exerted by Time and Mass in certain Reactions in which insoluble Salts are produced," by M. M. P. Muir; "On two new Fatty Acids of the Series  $C_nH_{2n}O_n$ ," by C. T. Kingzett and Dr. B. H. Paul.

FRIDAY, November 16.—8 P.M. Philological: "On *gallow*," by M. Métiévier; "On final *n* in the Authorised Version of the Bible," by B. Dawson.

## SCIENCE.

*Die vergleichende Anatomie der Vegetationsorgane der Phanerogamen und Farne.* Von Dr. A. de Bary. (Leipzig: Engelmann, 1877.)

WE have here the last volume of the *Handbuch der physiologischen Botanik* edited by the late Prof. Hofmeister. As it now stands the *Handbuch* consists of four volumes—one (composed of two parts) by Hofmeister, two by De Bary, and one by Sachs. According to the original plan it was to have been prepared by six different authors, but in consequence of the withdrawal of three the work originally apportioned to them had to be distributed among the others. Hofmeister undertook two of those parts, and unfortunately left them at his death too incomplete for publication. Profs. de Bary and Sachs, the only remaining authors, have, therefore, closed the series with the work of the former, the title of which stands at the beginning of this paragraph.

The task which Prof. de Bary set himself, and at which he has worked with several interruptions since 1865, was to give a comprehensive account of the anatomy of the vegetative organs of vascular plants, as at present known through published researches. From the Preface it would seem as if the book were a mere compendium of facts in the discovery of which the author has had no share. How very different the case is must be well known to all who are familiar with the common channels of publication in which the name of De Bary is connected with many of our most trustworthy researches in anatomy. No doubt there is a difference between this and his previous volume in this same series, *Die Morphologie und Physiologie der Pilze, Flechten und Myxomyceten*. In it there was certainly more of his own researches, while the difficulty in creating order out of the apparently hopeless confusion in which the subject then stood must have been enormous. In the present volume, in which nothing is published for the first time, though the independent research of De Bary may be seen at every hand, one would be inclined to think that his hardest task must have lain in the classification and verification of the vast amount of previous work on this subject published in all possible quarters.

All palaeontological and pathological matters were excluded, together with purely historical questions. The latter would have been an unnecessary addition from the existence of Sachs' *Geschichte der Botanik*, in which the history of physiology and anatomy is prominently treated. We are thus reduced to the actual anatomy of exist-

ing vegetation, excluding all morbid phenomena. By this is meant, firstly, that stage of physical development usually called the perfect state, and subordinately those previous stages back to which all completely developed organs are referred, and without an understanding of which no true knowledge of the perfect organ is possible. After the Introduction the author proceeds to the working-out of his subject in detail. The first part of the book is devoted to the structure, and the second to the relative positions of tissues. The first chapter deals with the cellular tissues (Epidermis, Cork, and Parenchyme), and the next six chapters with Sclerenchyme, the Reservoirs of Secretions, the Tracheae (vessels and wood-cells or tracheideae), the Sieve-tubes, the Milk-tubes, and the Intercellular Spaces respectively. The eighth chapter, or the first of the second part, is devoted to a comparative description of the arrangement of Tracheae and Sieve-tubes without and within vascular bundles, the position of the bundles themselves, and their structure. Other chapters follow discussing the primary positions of the other tissues. We then proceed, in the next part, to secondary modifications. In it we find described the secondary growth of normal dicotyledonous stems and roots, and the secondary alterations which take place without the cambium zone; then the anomalous transverse growth in dicotyledons and gymnosperms, the facts of which especially wanted organisation. The last chapter in the book is devoted to the transverse growth of the stems and roots of monocotyledons and vascular cryptogams.

It will be seen that the book covers an extraordinary extent of ground, but what we wish to point out in particular is the elaborateness with which all details have been worked out, without at the same time the smallest unnecessary show. Take, for instance, the treatment of epidermis. As parts of epidermis three kinds of cells are to be distinguished—epidermis cells as ordinarily understood, stomatal cells, and hairs (trichome-formations). The ordinary epidermis cells occur in some cases in one layer, and in others in several, as the result of tangential cell-division in the primary single layer. The anatomy of these is followed through many natural orders, and the forms relegated to their different types according to the number of layers, &c. The development of the layers also receives its due attention. The stomata are then similarly treated, but at greater length from the greater number of their forms and their more complicated structure. From Grew and Malpighi downwards all who have contributed to our knowledge of these organs are credited with the work they have performed. Prof. de Bary's own work on the subject has been extensive, and the exhaustive treatment of the subject here must have cost him much labour in purely literary research. After stomata other openings in the epidermis are described, such as the water-pores occurring at the points of the leaves of certain grasses. The numerous forms of hairs are then classed under several typical forms—a work to be compared in point of labour with that just mentioned. Then we find described the contents of

epidermis cells (in the wide sense) and the structure of their walls (into which enter the subjects of cuticula and the overgrowths of wax, where the work of De Bary [see *Botanische Zeitung*, 1871] is again evident), and very minutely that of the glands or druses and the general forms of occurrence of silicon, oxalate of lime, and carbonate of lime. From epidermis we pass on to cork, which may be said to replace it.

It was, of course, very difficult without constantly disturbing the text of the book to take notice of researches which were published while it was being written, but even this Prof. de Bary was able to do up to three years ago, and, on the whole, then it may be fairly said that the book is as perfect as it could well be. Most of the illustrations are drawn from nature by Prof. de Bary's own hand. GEORGE MURRAY.

## SCIENCE NOTES.

### PHYSIOLOGY.

*On the Effect of Varnishing the Skin in Man.*—When an animal, such as a dog or rabbit, is coated with an impermeable varnish, the temperature of its body falls, serious symptoms ensue and terminate in death. Suppression of the excretory functions of the skin is usually stated to be the cause, or at any rate one of the causes, of the phenomena in question. It is often assumed that similar results would follow varnishing in the human subject; and the assumption is supported by the old story of the boy who lost his life in consequence of being coated with gold-leaf to represent an angel in a religious ceremony. Senator has put the question to the test of experiment (*Virchow's Archiv*, lxx., 182). Two healthy men allowed their limbs to be coated with impermeable plasters, while the trunk was varnished with several layers of flexible collodion. Nearly a week was allowed to elapse before these applications were removed. None of the evil consequences invariably observed in animals made their appearance; there was no fall of temperature, no albuminuria, no exhaustion, no dyspnoea, convulsion, or paralysis. Senator concludes that the gilded boy was probably poisoned by some ingredient in the material applied to his skin.

*On the Colouring-matter of the Retina in its Relation to Vision.*—The discovery of the so-called "retina-red" or "retina-purple" by Boll has led to the adoption, by some authors, of the hypothesis that the chemical products resulting from the decomposition of the retinal pigment by light stimulate the terminations of the optic nerve, and that this photo-chemical process is an essential factor in ordinary vision. Kühne has set himself to show that this hypothesis is, to say the least, premature (*Untersuch. aus dem physiolog. Institut in Heidelberg*, Band I., Heft 2). He points out that the retina of many birds and reptiles, whose faculty of seeing is beyond question, contains no purple, and that this is likewise true of the most sensitive portion of the human retina—the fovea centralis and its immediate neighbourhood. The large retinal rods of the river cray-fish contain a great deal of pigment; but this is singularly indifferent to the action of light, exposure to the sun's rays for several hours failing to bleach it. From these considerations it is clear that the retinal pigment cannot be essential to vision in all animals; while, from its indifference to light in some of the invertebrata, it would almost seem to be analogous to the other varieties of colouring-matter so often present in different parts of the eye—e.g., the yellow of the macula lutea, the coloured oil-drops in birds and reptiles, the yellow of the lens in many fishes, the orange protoplasm recently discovered by Dr. Ewald in the anterior

layers of the cornea of the perch. The following experiments show that in the frog, whose retinal rods contain a very sensitive kind of purple, the power of distinct vision, and the faculty of distinguishing colours, survive complete bleaching of the retina by direct sun-light. Frogs exposed to the sun for more than an hour (the retina is quite decolorised by exposure for fifteen minutes) were found to be able, not merely to elude all attempts made to lay hold of them, but also to capture flies; blind frogs, of course, being unable to do either the one or the other. Again, if a number of frogs are confined in a shallow dish, one-half of which is roofed with green, the other half with blue glass, they will in a short time be found huddled together under the green portion of the roof. This preference for green over blue is exhibited by a vast majority, both of *Rana esculenta* and *R. temporaria*. Possible fallacies which might arise from the unequal diathermancy of the two kinds of glass, unequal intensity of illumination, &c. were carefully eliminated. It was conclusively ascertained that the preference was connected with the colour, and not with any other property of the glass. Having settled this point, Kühne introduced a number of blind frogs into a vessel of this sort, and found that they showed no preference for one part of it rather than another; while frogs that had been exposed to the sun for hours, and whose rods no longer contained any trace of purple, speedily took refuge in the green half of their prison-house.

*On the Law regulating the Exhaustion of Nerve-fibres, and their Recovery after Stimulation.*—The phenomena of exhaustion and recovery have been thoroughly studied in tetanised muscles; Prof. J. Bernstein has recently investigated the corresponding phenomena in motor and sensory nerves (*Pflüger's Archiv*, xv., 6 and 7). If an interrupted current from a Dubois Reymond's induction apparatus be sent through a short section of the exposed sciatic nerve in a frog, the *tendo Achillis* having been previously connected with the lever of a myograph, it will be found, after a time, that stimulation of the plexus higher up no longer causes the muscles of the leg to contract. The conducting power of the stimulated tract of the nerve is abolished. With time and rest it may be regained; but its recovery does not take place at a uniform rate. At first it is very slow and gradual; it then goes on very rapidly for a relatively brief period; lastly, it enters on a third phase, during which its progress is once more slow, proceeding at a constantly diminishing rate as the nerve approaches its normal condition. The impairment of conductivity which results from the flow of a continued galvanic current through a given section of a motor nerve has been ascribed to a variety of causes. It is really a kind of fatigue resembling that produced by interrupted currents. The process of recovery is governed by the same law in both cases; hence it may fairly be inferred that the fundamental changes in the nerve-fibre are similar in both. Bernstein next proceeded to investigate the phenomena of recovery in motor nerves after their conducting power had been exhausted by mechanical, chemical (dilute lactic acid), and thermal stimuli. The rate of recovery was found to obey the same law as before. On extending the enquiry to sensory nerves the same law was again found to hold good. The author then proceeds to discuss the facts in their theoretical aspect, and points out that the law deduced from them is fundamentally similar to that which regulates the recovery of organisms as a whole from the exhaustion caused by fatigue or disease; it may thus be brought into connexion with the general principles of organic nutrition.

*Elimination of Alcohol from the Body.*—A full account of Prof. Binz's researches on this subject is given in the *Archiv für exper. Path.*, vi., p. 287. Supposing any considerable portion of the alcohol absorbed into the blood to be eliminated without previous decomposition, it must

escape through the kidneys, or the lungs, or through both of these channels at once. The fallacy inherent in the bichromate test having long since been generally recognised, Binz employed Geissler's vaporimeter for the detection of minute quantities of alcohol in the urine. A number of experiments showed that only a very small proportion of the alcohol taken (six per cent. at most) passes out through the kidneys. The breath is often supposed to smell of alcohol; but the smell noticed after any of the usual intoxicating beverages is really due to essential oils and ethers; it is not observed after a mixture of pure alcohol with distilled water has been taken. Attempts were then made to detect alcohol in the expired air, by passing it for many hours through a series of Woulfe's bottles, containing cold distilled water; but in no single case was positive evidence of its presence obtained. Binz concludes, accordingly, that almost all the alcohol absorbed undergoes oxidation in the system.

#### CHEMISTRY AND MINERALOGY.

*Action of Cyanogen on Albumin.*—When a current of cyanogen is passed into a solution of albumin, a flocculent substance separates; the supernatant liquid, according to O. Löw, coagulates on the addition of alcohol and nitric acid, while acetic acid throws down a considerable precipitate (*Jour. prakt. Chem.*, 1877, xvi., 60). The last-mentioned product was found on analysis to be identical with the flocculent body first alluded to: to be, in short, a body consisting of albumin, cyanogen and water, the quantitative relations of the ingredients varying with the quantity of the substances which are brought together. In one experiment the body isolated consisted of one molecule of albumin,  $C_{72}H_{112}N_{18}SO_{22} + 2$  mol. of cyanogen,  $C_2N_2 + 3$  mol. of water; in another, one molecule albumin + 4 mol. cyanogen + 8 mol. of water; and in a third of one molecule albumin + 8 mol. of cyanogen + 16 mol. of water. When acted upon by alkalis, these bodies lose a part of their cyanogen and the whole of their water, ammonia is set free, oxalic acid is formed, and compounds containing an abundance of nitrogen are likewise produced. During a more recent enquiry it was found that the liquid from which acetic acid had thrown down a precipitate—a liquid which, it should be mentioned, emitted a powerful odour of hydrocyanic acid—deposited on evaporation spherular masses of a yellowish-coloured body, which was sparingly soluble in alcohol and cold water, and on the application of heat evolved hydrocyanic acid, while a white substance sublimed which was found to be soluble in cold concentrated sulphuric acid, and to be deposited from that liquid as a yellow powder on addition of water; with aqueous solutions of nitrate of silver or basic acetate of lead it formed bright-yellow precipitates; and when warmed with caustic soda it underwent decomposition, oxalic acid being formed and ammonia evolved in considerable quantities. Löw has named this body *Oxamoidin*; it appears to have the composition  $C_{14}H_{23}N_{11}O_{10}$ . A quantitative determination of the ammonia and oxalic acid liberated during the decomposition points to the probability of the separation from the oxamoidin under these circumstances of a compound, having the formula  $C_5H_{12}N_3O_8$ ; another body having the composition  $C_5H_7N_3O_8$ , or more probably  $C_5H_7N_3O_2$  being likewise isolated. If the compounds which are formed by the action of cyanogen on albumin be boiled with very dilute solution of soda, they evolve ammonia, and, on treatment with acetic acid, carbonic acid, hydrocyanic acid and sulphuretted hydrogen, considerable quantities of oxalic acid remaining in the solution, together with a canary-yellow body, which separates on the addition of acetic acid, and to which the author has given the name of *cyalbidin*.

*The Thermal Springs of Baden.*—The mineral waters of Baden, near Vienna, have recently been examined anew by Schneider and Kretschy (*Wiener Anz.*, 1877, 181). The temperature of these waters appears to have fallen in only a very slight degree during the 150 years that observations have been taken. During the last century the specific gravity and chemical constitution have remained unchanged. The sulphur compounds of this water present in a form which can act upon iodine appear to be partly sulphuretted hydrogen, partly hyposulphurous acid; the former is shown by the nitro-prusside test to be in combination with bases, not in a free state as the presence of free carbonic acid might have led one to conjecture. The chief mineral constituents of these waters are glauber salt (sodium sulphate), lime sulphate, the chlorides of calcium and magnesium, and lime carbonate. Traces of lithium and strontium are met with, and boracic acid in a quantity sufficiently large to admit of its being quantitatively determined. The gas which accompanies the water is chiefly nitrogen, with small quantities of carbonic acid and traces of sulphuretted hydrogen.

*Touchstone.*—Dumas has recently published the results of an analysis of a specimen of touchstone, probably the very specimen examined by Vauquelin (*Jour. chim. pharm.*, xxii., 426). The silica amounts to 81.40 per cent. He believes the touchstone to be a variety of fossil wood, a small portion of the woody tissue of which has not been replaced by silica. Certain specimens from the Alps yield on ignition an ash which consists of silica alone; they still retain, however, sufficient evidence of structure to allow of the determination of the genus whence they have been derived. A microscopic examination of these sections of touchstone by Regnault has shown that in some cases the organic matter present consists of a variety of bitumen, resulting from the decomposition of the tissues of the original wood; the intense black colour of that substance, as it fills the cell-walls and spaces once occupied by fibrous structure, renders the forms and details of the cellular portion apparent.

*Ammonium Sulphates.*—Schweitzer finds that a careful application of heat to the neutral salt causes a well-defined loss of weight, and the results of his analyses of the residue left in two instances, varying with the degree of heat applied, pointed to the existence of salts having the composition  $NH_4SO_4$  and  $(NH_4)_2H_4(SO_4)_3$  (*Chemical News*, 1877, xxxvi., 95).

*Zeorin and Sordidin.*—Paternò, whose enquiry in this direction we recently referred to, has published a second paper (*Gazz. Chim. Ital.*, 1877, vii., 282) on the constituents of *Zeora sordida*. Twenty kilogrammes of material yielded only a few grammes of these ingredients. Frequent recrystallisation of the "sordidin" from alcohol and benzol, and subsequent purification with ether and chloroform, furnished a product which proved to be a mixture of zeorin with another substance which crystallises well, melts at  $210^\circ$ , and proves to be sordidin in a pure state. It has the composition  $C_{13}H_{10}O_8$ , and crystallises in small colourless needles or plates, which sublime without decomposition, are readily soluble in benzol and alcohol, and are but sparingly taken up by ether and chloroform. When treated with potash sordidin is converted into a crystalline body which decomposes at  $250^\circ$  without undergoing fusion. Zeorin, on the other hand, is not acted upon by potash solution.

*Periclasite.*—Cossa (*Ber. deut. chem. Gesell.*, 1877, x., 1747) has analysed the predazzite of Monte Somma and the periclasite which is found enclosed in it. It appears to contain more magnesia and less iron oxide than any of the specimens previously analysed, and to consist of 95.6 per cent. of magnesia, and 4.4 per cent. of iron protoxide. Magnesia has been crystallised artificially by Ebelmen, Deville, and Daubrée. Cossa has prepared it by fusing the sulphate with sodium



chloride at very high temperatures for the space of four hours in platinum crucibles, and allowing the mixture to cool slowly. Larger crystals of a slightly reddish hue were found when a small quantity of ferrous sulphate was added to the fused mass; these, however, contained less than one per cent. of iron oxide.

PROF. TSCHERMAK, of Vienna, has issued a short notice of the additions made, down to the end of September of the present year, to the collection of meteorites under his care. During the last five years stones from twelve, and iron from eight, new localities have been added. The remaining (fourth) fragment of the great stone of Knyahinya has been acquired by purchase, and it now weighs in its entirety 293 kilog. A large mass of meteoric iron, weighing 198 kilog., from the Bolson de Mapini, Cohahuila, Mexico, has likewise been added. The total number of falls now represented is 308; in 1819 the number was 36, in 1843 it rose to 94, in 1869 it was 176, and in 1868 it attained 244. Since 1869 Prof. Tschermak has added specimens of 64 falls, previously not represented, to the collection; and the total weight of meteoric matter has during the interval been increased from 570 kilog. to 1,025 kilog. The most recent aerolitic showers of which specimens have been secured are those which occurred at Iowa City (Amana), Iowa, February 12, 1875; and Zsadany, Temeser Comitat, Hungary, March 31, 1875; and the last new meteoric iron comes from Neuntmannsdorf, Pirna, Saxony, and bears the date 1872.

DR. W. LOSSEN, extraordinary Professor of Chemistry in the University of Heidelberg, has accepted the professorial Chair of the University of Königsberg.

THE New York *Nation* announces the death, at the age of seventy-three, of Mr. John G. Anthony, for many years a devoted coadjutor of Agassiz in the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Cambridge, where he had charge of the Conchological Department. Long residence and extensive travel in the Ohio Valley had made him the first American authority on fresh-water shells.

THE Council of University College, London, have appointed the Rev. T. G. Bonney, B.D., of St. John's College, Cambridge, Professor of Geology and Mineralogy for five years.

DR. C. A. WHITE, Palaeontologist to the United States Geological and Geographical Survey of the Territories, has spent the past season in making a critical study of the Mesozoic and Caenozoic strata of the great Rocky Mountain region, and the results have tended to confirm in a remarkably clear manner the statement so often put forth by Dr. Hayden in his annual Reports, that the entire series of deposits are consecutive from the Dakota group of Cretaceous age below to the Bridges group of Tertiary above. The sedimentation was evidently continuous through all the changes from marine to brackish and from brackish to fresh-water that successively took place in that great region, although those changes in aqueous conditions produced corresponding changes in the then prevailing forms of invertebrate life.

THE Metropolitan Scientific Association commences their session on Tuesday next, November 13, at Shaftesbury Hall, 36 Aldersgate Street. The President, Mr. Charles Judd, will give the inaugural address, entitled "Scientific Work and Scientific Workers."

MR. ROBERT SWINHAE, F.R.S., who died at his house in Carlyle Square, on Sunday, the 28th ult., at the early age of forty-one, was most distinguished as an explorer of the zoology of China. Born in 1836, and educated at King's College, London, Mr. Swinhoe was appointed to Her Majesty's Chinese Consular Service in 1854. He acted as interpreter to Lord Elgin's mission in 1858, to General Napier and Sir Hope Grant in the campaign of 1860, and served as British

Consul at Formosa, Amoy, Ningpo, and Chefoo successively. In 1874 he was obliged by bad health to return home, and he has since been a confirmed invalid. Mr. Swinhoe's first zoological essay, *Notes on the Fauna of Amoy*, appeared in 1858, and since then he had not ceased to contribute papers to the *Zoologist*, *Journal of the Asiatic Society*, *Ibis*, *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, and the *Proceedings* of the Zoological Society. Latterly he was busied on a complete work on the ornithology of China, in which his scattered observations were to be arranged and collected, but this scheme has been cut short by his untimely death. To his researches, and to those of the French missionary, Père David, we are indebted for almost all our knowledge of the vertebrate fauna of China. He was a Fellow of the Royal, Zoological, and Royal Geographical Societies, a Member of the British Ornithologists' Union, an Honorary Fellow of King's College, and had received a medal for his war services in 1860. Mr. Swinhoe had all the qualities of a first-rate explorer and field-naturalist, while his character and disposition endeared him to his numerous private and scientific friends.

#### PHILOLOGY.

A *Practical English-Sanskrit Dictionary*. By Anundoram Borooh, B.A. (Calcutta.) A Sanskrit-English Dictionary is a difficult task indeed, but far more difficult is an English-Sanskrit Dictionary. For the former task materials are at hand, partly in the native Koshas, partly, and to a much greater extent, in the ancient literature of India. By working their way through printed books and MSS., noting down every word as it occurred, and assigning to each its probable meaning, Wilson, Westergaard, Boehtlingk, Roth, and their collaborators, have amassed a real Thesaurus of the Sanskrit language, a Thesaurus which may be added to, sifted, and improved, but which will always remain a storehouse for Sanskrit scholarship. There are no such materials for an English-Sanskrit Dictionary. One might suppose that by simply inverting the order, by copying out a Sanskrit-English Dictionary, and placing the English word first and the Sanskrit equivalent last, anyone could now, in a purely mechanical way, produce such a work. No scholar, however, need be told that such a proceeding would be extremely hazardous. No doubt λόγος in Greek might be rendered by word in English, but if we rendered "word" by λόγος, we should go very far wrong.

"*Arishta* in Sanskrit means, 'as we read in Boehtlingk-Roth's Dictionary,' unhurt, perfect, secure, a heron, a crow, certain plants—such as *Sapindus detergens*, *Azadirachta indica*, garlic—a distilled mixture, an Asura, son of Bali, slain by Krishna (Vishnu), a son of Manu Vairasvata; fem., a bandage, a medical plant, a daughter of Daksha, one of the wives of Kasyapa; mother of a race of Apsaras; or, ill-luck, unlucky symptom, sign of approaching death, good-fortune, buttermilk, a spirituous liquor, a woman's apartment, a lying-in chamber."

If to every one of these English words we were to give *arisha* as the Sanskrit equivalent, there would be nothing but confusion, unless there were given at the same time authorities for each of these different meanings, and illustrations to show under what circumstances one and the same word could be used for such various purposes. We should then see that *arisha*, though etymologically it means "not hurt," is of frequent occurrence in the sense of "bad omen," while its meaning of "good luck" rests only on the authority of some native dictionary, and depends in fact on the proper interpretation of the passage where it occurs. The only scholarlike way of compiling an English-Sanskrit Dictionary is to write down all passages in which a Sanskrit word lends itself to an adequate rendering in English, and thus to collect independently the materials for a new Thesaurus. Of course, there are thousands of words which do

not require to be supported by such evidence. That "king" can be rendered by *rājan*, or "slave" by *dāsa*, is clear enough. But when we look for an equivalent for "empress," it is not sufficient that we should find, as we do in Mr. Borooh's Dictionary, that the proper rendering is *adhirāṇi* or *rāḍādhirāṇi*, but we want to know the historical documents, which are many, in which that title occurs, and how far it expresses there the dignity implied by "empress"—i.e. suzerain of sovereign princes. In the beginning of his Dictionary Mr. Borooh has tried to carry out such a system, by giving us his authorities for the translations of English words into Sanskrit whenever their exact coincidence seems doubtful. But these references, which are by far the most useful portion of his Dictionary, become fewer and fewer as we proceed, till at last they almost disappear. This is much to be regretted. While fully admitting that Mr. Borooh's knowledge of Sanskrit and of the spoken vernaculars has suggested to him many happy renderings, we believe that his book would have been of far greater service if he had given us all the references and illustrations which he has, no doubt, collected in preparing his Dictionary. Sometimes, instead of simply translating English words into Sanskrit, Mr. Borooh ought to have given us more idiomatic Sanskrit expressions. "Etymology," for instance, and particularly the science of etymology, is in Sanskrit *nirukta*, not *vyutpattividya*. "Evolution," or development, is not *udbheda*, but *vikāra*, or *vivṛiti*, or *dvirbhāva*. "Atonement," or "expiation," is certainly *prāyaskitta*, as a means; but as an act, *sānti* would be a better word, as we see from *Āit. Ar.*, i., 1, 3, 8. "Entertaining" is not exactly *vinodin*, nor *hāsyakara*, but, particularly if applied to a discourse, *raṅgaka* (*Āit. Ar.*, ed. Rajendra L. M., p. 368). Sometimes, but rarely, Mr. Borooh has failed to grasp the meaning of the English words which he translates. Thus, Caesar's Commentaries can never be rendered by *vyākhyāna*. That would mean Caesar's interpretation or gloss; whereas Commentaries here means Caesar's note-books or day-books or historical sketches.

#### MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES.

##### CHEMICAL SOCIETY.—(Thursday, November 1.)

DR. GLADSTONE, F.R.S., in the Chair. The following papers were read:—1. "On some Hydrocarbons obtained from the Homologues of Cinnamic Acid," by W. H. Perkin. These hydrocarbons were prepared either by heating the acids, or by treating the hydrobromo acids with bases. The following acids were prepared and examined:—Hydrobromocinnenylacrylic, hydrobromocinnenyl crotonic, hydrobromocinnenyl angelic. The following hydrocarbons were obtained:—Isopropylvinylbenzene, isopropylallylbenzene, isopropylbutenylbenzene, allylbenzene, and butenylbenzene; the dibromides of these bodies were also prepared and examined. 2. "On Anethol and its Homologues," by W. H. Perkin. By heating methylparoxyphenylacrylic acid vinylic anethol was obtained; similarly allylic or ordinary anethol, and butenyl anethol were prepared. In conclusion the author discusses the formation of the hydrocarbons from the hydrobromo acids, and concludes that they are formed simply by the separation of hydrobromic acid and carbonic anhydride. 3. "On Two New Methods for estimating Bismuth volumetrically," by M. M. P. Muir. To a solution of bismuth in nitric acid an excess of sodium acetate is added, and then a measured volume of standard sodium phosphate solution also in excess, the bismuth is precipitated, the precipitate filtered off, and the excess of phosphoric acid determined in the filtrate by Uranium acetate. The other method given does not yield such accurate results. 4. "On the Oxidation of Ditolyl," by T. Carnelly. By the oxidation of solid ditolyl the author obtained diparatolylphenylcarboxylic acid and diparatolylphenylcarboxylic acid; liquid ditolyl yielded orthoparatolylphenylcarboxylic acid, orthoparatolylphenylcarboxylic acid, and, finally, terephthalic acid. 5. "On a New Manganese Reaction," by J. B. Hannay. If a solution of a manganous salt in strong nitric acid is warmed in the presence of an iron salt with some

crystals of potassic chlorate, the iron and manganese are precipitated as a double manganate of iron and manganese. The author proposes this reaction for separating iron from aluminium, &c.

#### LINNEAN SOCIETY.—(Thursday, November 1.)

PROF. ALLEN, President, in the Chair. A number of interesting botanical specimens were exhibited, remarks and discussion following thereon. Among these were examples of *Colletia cruciata* and *C. Biotensis*, forwarded by the Rev. T. H. Sotheby; specimens of gum-trees, by Mr. A. O. Walker, that of *Penstemon Clevelandii*, said to have flowered for the first time in Britain; fungus in sugar-cane, shown by Mr. E. M. Holmes, who mentioned that it had destroyed a plantation in India; adventitious tubers producing buds on the root of *Brassica Rapa*, and a grape within a grape, or development of fruit in place of seed, both exhibited and explained by Dr. Masters. —A paper "On the Source of the Winged Cardamom of Nepal," by Dr. G. King, was read by the secretary. Dr. Pereira regarded *Anomum maximum*, Roxb., as the tree producing the above; but this is indigenous to Java. The Indian species Roxburgh named *A. aromaticum* and *A. subulatum*. The latter Dr. King convincingly proves to be the plant from which the Nepalese so-called Winged Cardamom is derived. Its habitat is the Morung Mountains, and not the Khasia hills as Voigt has asserted. In illustration of this paper, Mr. E. M. Holmes exhibited the typical specimens of Cardamoms of the late Mr. Hanbury, who had, in fact, first drawn Dr. King's attention to the subject. —A communication from Captain W. E. Armit, "On the Australian Finches of the Genus *Poephila*," referred more especially to facts in support of Mr. Gould, who had recognised two birds respectively as *P. mirabilis*, Han. and Jacq., and *P. Gouldiae*, a distinction denied by Mr. Diggles (*Queensl. Philos. Soc.*, 1876). —In a "Revision of the Hippidae," Mr. E. J. Miers contends for this group of the Anomourous Crustacea having affinities to the Oxystomatous Brachyura through the Raninidae. They inhabit all the warmer, temperate, and tropical seas. Recently a blank in their history has been furnished by Mr. S. J. Smith, of Connecticut, the common species of the East American coasts having been carefully studied by him. The cold winters limit their northern range, but southerly they are abundant on the sandy coasts, gregariously burrowing among the sand near low-water mark; some species of the group are, however, met with at considerable depths on the South American and African coasts. —This was followed by a paper on "The Self-Fertilisation of Plants," by the Rev. G. Henslow. His conclusions may be thus summarised:—1. The majority of flowering-plants are self-fertile. 2. Very few are known to be physiologically self-sterile. 3. Many are morphologically self-sterile. 4. Self-sterile plants become self-fertile by (a) withering of corolla; (b) its excision; (c) loss of colour; (d) closing; (e) not opening; (f) absence of insects; (g) reduction of temperature; (h) transportation. 5. Highly self-fertile forms may arise under cultivation. 6. Special adaptations occur for self-fertilisation. 7. Inconspicuous flowers are highly self-fertile. 8. Cleistogamous flowers are always self-fertilised. 9. Conservation of energy in reduction of pollen. 10. Relative fertility may equal or surpass that of crossed plants. 11. It does not decrease in successive generations. 12. It may increase. 13. Free from competition, self-fertilised plants equal the intercrossed—(a) as seedlings; (b) planted in open ground. 14. They may gain no benefit from a cross from the same or a different stock. 15. They are as healthy as the intercrossed. 16. They may be much more productive than flowers dependent on insects. 17. Naturalised abroad, they gain great vigour; and, 18. are the fittest to survive in the struggle for life.

#### PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—(Friday, November 2.)

DR. JAMES A. H. MURRAY, President, in the Chair. The papers read were—(1) a statement by Mr. A. J. Ellis, F.R.S., Vice-President, concerning the "Returns received to his Word List for Provincial Pronunciation." Mr. Ellis reported that, in order to complete his previous collections for the Fifth Part of his Early English Pronunciation, which was to deal with our dialects, he had sent out, chiefly to country clergymen, 1,612 lists of characteristic words and phrases, and a list of narratives, to be written in Glossic, and a list of each district of Great Britain. To these he

had received only 223 replies, some from each county, some from Scotland and Wales; several of these were valuable from their fullness and accuracy, while others were very meagre in detail; one consisted only of a single word. 2. On the phrases "to part from," and "to part with," by Dr. Sattler, the writer citing a very large number of instances, and showing that in the former phrase the act of parting was (generally) the speaker's, while in the latter the cause of parting was generally not his. 3. "Specimens of the West Somerset Dialect," some racy country stories, read with the proper native accent and twang, by the best authority on the dialects, Mr. F. T. Elworthy, of Foxdown, Wellington.

#### PHYSICAL SOCIETY.—(Saturday, November 3.)

PROF. G. C. FOSTER, President, in the Chair. Prof. McLeod described some experiments which he has recently made to determine the exact number of vibrations of tuning-forks by means of the apparatus which he exhibited to the society on April 28 last, and which was designed for determining slight variations in the speed of machinery or other analogous purposes. He has studied a new set of forks just received from Koenig, and his results exhibit a remarkable concordance, the extreme results in the worst set of observations, on a fork of 256 complete vibrations, only differing by 0.005 per cent.; and in a good set they agreed within 0.00078 per cent. Examining the series from 256 to 512, he found them in all cases to give from 0.3 to 0.5 of a vibration more than was anticipated, but as this variation may be due to a difference between the temperature and that at which they were adjusted, he is waiting to ascertain what this was. He considers that the manner in which the fork is held has an effect on its vibrations, and he hopes to be able to get some information as to the effect of temperature on elasticity. —Dr. Huggins exhibited some artificial gems recently prepared by M. Feil, the well-known glass-manufacturer of Paris, who has succeeded in crystallising stones of the corundum class; and rubies, as well as a topaz and emerald, were exhibited. Dr. Huggins believes that the colour is imparted by small quantities of metallic oxides, and that the mass is mixed with boracic acid and maintained in a fused condition for a considerable period. M. Feil hopes to obtain larger stones by maintaining the heat constant for several weeks consecutively. —Dr. Lodge then read a communication from Profs. Ayrton and Perry, of the Imperial College, Japan, in continuation of one read before the society on May 26 last, on "Ice as an Electrolyte," and since published in the *Philosophical Magazine*. The experiments therein described led them to expect a very sudden rise in the specific inductive capacity as the temperature of the ice increased through zero and it became water. Recent results have shown that, though rapid, this increase is not so great as they anticipated. Referring to Prof. Clerk Maxwell's theory comparing electro-magnetic disturbances with light vibrations, they point out that he exclusively regards a conducting medium. But they showed in a former paper that no dielectric can be considered non-conducting; hence they conclude that the measured specific inductive capacity can never be even approximately equal to the square of the index of refraction. Prof. Foster mentioned that he recently had occasion to collect as many results as possible on specific inductive capacity and refractive index, and he found that where these figures were low, the agreement with the law was fairly close, but with greater values the inductive capacity and the square of the refractive index separate very rapidly. —Prof. Guthrie described a simple means for showing the interference between plane waves by means of two long cords vibrating side by side. If a vibration of considerable amplitude be imparted to them, and the plane in which they travel be carefully examined, two faint black lines will be seen which cross and recross each other more rapidly as the cords are less and less in unison, and with perfect unison remain stationary.

#### MUSICAL ASSOCIATION.—(Monday, November 5.)

R. H. M. BOSANQUET, Esq., in the Chair. Mr. W. Chappell read a paper on "Music a Science of Numbers." Consonance and dissonance were explained according to the old theory of coincidences. The elementary facts about the harmonic series were stated, and the development of harmonics in strings

and pipes described in detail. Certain views as to the existing mode of tuning were dissented from. The employment of the harmonic series was suggested as a means for finding the bass to combinations. Sir C. Wheatstone's experiment was shown, in which the tongue of a Jew's harp is made to sound its harmonics faintly, by means of a resonance tube, with a moveable piston. A large drawing was exhibited representing one of the famous resonance-instruments from Java. And a harmonium with two sets of keys was shown, one of which was intended to exhibit the regular sequence of harmonic intervals; while the other had the form of an ordinary keyboard, tuned according to the consonant intervals of the harmonic scale. After a vote of thanks had been given to Mr. Chappell, the Chairman declined to enter into controversy, but made some remarks on the mechanical theory of the Wheatstone experiment, and gave a further description of the resonance instrument from Java. Mr. Stephens asked whether the principle of the latter could not be applied to the construction of a keyed instrument of the modern type. Mr. Herman Smith said that such an instrument had actually been constructed, with tuning-forks and resonators, some years ago.

#### FINE ART.

##### THE ART AND MEDIAEVAL EXHIBITION AT LUCCA.

DURING the month of September an artistic, industrial and agricultural exhibition was held in the little city of Lucca which has thrown into the shade all previous exhibitions of the same kind in other parts of Italy. Unpuffed, unheralded, almost unannounced, it was a complete and welcome surprise to the public at large. It is a striking proof of the wealth of art treasures still existing in this much-ransacked Italy that the single province of Lucca should have been able to furnish so noble a loan collection of pictures and *objets d'art* of all descriptions. And all this was accomplished by the untiring energy of Prof. Norfini, Director of the Lucca Academy of Fine Arts, who for years has had this object in view and has fought his way towards it in the face of many obstacles.

His undertaking has been crowned with success: churches and convents yielded up their jealously-guarded treasures; the palaces and villas of the Lucchese nobility were all laid under contribution; and the result has been a splendid and harmoniously-arranged collection forming a complete epitome of six centuries of Italian art.

It will give some idea of the extent of this collection when I mention that it filled seventeen rooms (we might say halls) of the ex-Ducal palace of Lucca, lent by the Government for the purpose. And certainly the grandeur of the building added not a little to the dignity of this, the Central Exhibition. The noble vestibules and marble stairs, lined with effective masses of tropical plants, were fitting approaches to the things of beauty above.

To give a detailed description of the whole collection would be impossible within the limits of this article; and, besides, notwithstanding the great interest of the paintings here assembled, they were not the special feature of the exhibition. Glorious picture-galleries are common enough in Italy; but it is no exaggeration to say that this Lucca loan collection of *objets d'art*, of mediaeval and Renaissance furniture of every kind, was in many respects superior to the Mediaeval Exhibition in Naples. All these things too were most judiciously and harmoniously arranged, and as far as possible classified according to their several epochs. As for the pictures, they were distributed through ten or twelve of the rooms, and comprised examples not only of well-known Italian masters, but also of the Flemish school. With few exceptions all were interesting in different ways, the more so as, being the property of private families, the majority were intact, and the ravages of time seldom increased by the worse ravages of so-called restorers. Among them were about a dozen works which



would be sufficient of themselves to attract the delighted attention of the world.

First and foremost were the two masterpieces of Frà Bartolommeo recently removed from the convent church of San Romano, and now the property of the city of Lucca. They are the well-known *Madonna della Misericordia*, and the *St. Mary Magdalen and St. Catherine of Siena in Ecstasy*. Many English travellers will have seen them in their former home, but in the position assigned to them in the exhibition their merits could be far better appreciated. The *Saints in Ecstasy* is declared by many to be the best work of the Florentine master. In the upper part of the canvas is the figure of God the Father; beneath, standing out against a landscape background, are the two Saints, noble examples of Frà Bartolommeo's purity of design, harmony of colour and intensity of expression. They seem positively floating upwards from the ground they kneel on in the fervour of their adoration. Our *Lady of Mercy* is in the artist's second manner, showing traces of the influence of Michelangelo; it is grander in composition, but less spontaneous than the other work. It bears some resemblance to the well-known cartoon in the Uffiz gallery. The subject is the Virgin interceding for the Luccese during the wars with Florence. An angel bears a scroll, with the words "*Misereor super turbam*"—the keynote of the composition. On high is the Saviour, amid a crowd of attendant angels, tenderly looking down on the Virgin's upturned countenance.

On an easel hard by was a small sketch in oils of the same composition; and it is interesting to note the improvements made by Frà Bartolommeo in working out his subject.

These works were always among Lucca's chief glories, but this exhibition has raised them to a merited place among the glories of Italy. Indeed, to judge by the attention they have excited in the Italian press, one might imagine that they were now seen for the first time. Yet Vasari accorded them special mention.

In the same room was a small Raphael, which had been recently discovered, but it is in so deplorable a condition from damp and the clumsy efforts of incompetent restorers that it retains but few traces of the master's touch. Other posts of honour were accorded to a fine Lorenzo di Credi, a *Virgin and Child*, with attendant angels; an excellent Ghirlandaio, *Santa Lucia and San Biagio*; a medallion, *Virgin and Child*, by Luca della Robbia, as tender and gracious as his well-known work in the church of San Miniato at Florence; and a treasure of original drawings of Frà Bartolommeo, thirty in number.

Scattered about this Frà Bartolommeo room were several precious cabinets of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, and one or two inlaid marriage-coffers of an earlier date. There was likewise a small collection of majolica, comprising a very fine Urbino plate, and a few rare specimens of Venetian glass.

In the next room was a fine Andrea del Sarto, and other works of interest; but most worthy of note was a small sketch in oils of the *Miracle of St. Mark*, by Tintoretto, identical in composition with his famous picture at Venice.

And then, passing the doorway of hall No. 12, we found ourselves in what we may style the sanctuary of the exhibition, dedicated to art-objects, artistic goods and chattels of all kinds from the tenth to the fifteenth century. The ensemble of this room, as, indeed, of those following, was in all respects admirable. Each item of the varied contents seemed to be placed in precisely the most fitting position. An enormous baldachin of rich gold and crimson brocade from the Luccese looms of the sixteenth century hung from the lofty vaulted ceiling, high above two long stands of precious church-ornaments and jewellery. Amid this wealth of jewelled crosses, crucifixes, chalices, &c., the famous Cross of the Pisans held a prominent place. This

is of silver gilt, and is an exquisite specimen of fifteenth-century goldsmith's work. Unfortunately, however, its upper portion has been re-washed with gold, which gives it a rather tawdry effect in contrast with the damascened base, which has been left untouched. There was also a very curious mitre adorned with gold embroidery, of the early part of the fifteenth century.

Pieces of stamped Cordovan leather were tastefully arranged on the walls, and made effective backgrounds for pictures and crucifixes of the early Tuscan school, bassi rilievi, tabernacles, Della Robbia statues, and trophies of armour. There were several large tapestries of the beginning of the sixteenth century, and three of German workmanship, of the fifteenth century, in excellent preservation; also some glowing Eastern carpets, brocades, damasks, and specimens of some of the earliest tissues of velvet and gold thread.

In one corner stood a lay figure arrayed as a lady of the sixteenth century, in an exquisitely embroidered bodice of pale blue and silver, and a brocaded satin petticoat to match. Another miracle of needlework and patience was a cream-coloured counterpane of some soft woollen stuff, quilted in most intricate and delicate patterns, and bearing the arms of Cosimo de' Medici. Marriage coffers and carved furniture of many kinds and different epochs filled all other available space.

Leading out of this was a small room hung with rich silk damask from the church of San Romano, and almost entirely filled with altar ornaments from the Lucca churches and convents.

The next room, No. 14, was devoted to works of the seventeenth century, with the exception of a wonderful eighteenth-century bed. Of this the huge canopy and hangings were of yellow satin, with bold patterns in crimson velvet and satin appliqué. Its daring magnificence had a most grandiose effect. Here, too, were many cabinets of carved ebony and inlaid work; two smaller beds, covered with exquisitely embroidered satin; a large ivory crucifix of marvellous workmanship, by an unknown hand; many chairs covered with old leather, and others with delicate embroidery. A number of unfaded Gobelin tapestries, said to be designed by Teniers, covered a large portion of the walls of this room. The flowing robes worn by the Gonfalonieri of the Republic of Lucca were displayed to advantage on one lay figure, while a second represented the same personage in full Court dress.

The following room was, if possible, even still more attractive to the general public, for there was a rich collection of seventeenth and eighteenth century furniture, comprising a bed of even greater magnificence than that just described. It was indeed a *chef d'œuvre* of the industrial art of the last century, and, being all of white satin, ingeniously embroidered in coloured silks, its splendour was equalled by its delicacy. It is said to have belonged to the Polish Court, and has won for its owner a diploma of the first class. Another great attraction was a group of figures, life-size, seated round a card-table. Every detail of their costumes was exact; so, too, were the cards and card-markers. Musical amateurs were interested by two psalteries and a handsome spinet.

The next room contained a superb collection of lace of every kind and style, Venetian, Spanish, Flemish, French, and English, dating from the Cinquecento to the present time. There were also cases of seventeenth-century costumes, embroidered stuffs, and brocades. It will give some idea of the profusion of valuable lace to be found in Lucca when we say that there was a large curtained bed entirely of cut-work insertion and old Point de Cluny. Here, too, were four more fine specimens of seventeenth-century Gobelins.

And now in the last room, among more rich stuffs and precious porcelain, furniture, and glass ware, were placed a few easel-pictures of the

highest interest. There was a *Virgin and Child*, by Luini, a very sweet and noble example of that master; and a *Virgin and Child* by Mariotto Albertinelli. The latter is considered one of the painter's best works, but has unfortunately been botched by some impertinent dauber who has added a San Giovannino to the group. There is also a good Vandyck in this room, and two satisfactory examples of Canaletto's works.

Reluctantly leaving the Central Exhibition, we next went to the Mansi a S. Pellegrino Palace at the other end of the town. The palace in itself is worth a visit as a typical specimen of a family mansion of the Italian nobility, and the suite of twelve noble rooms thrown open to the public during these gala days contain an excellent collection of Dutch Masters, and a few noteworthy paintings of other schools. The gallery is particularly rich in works by De Witt; there are several Breughels (*de velours*); a fine snow-scene, by Jan Breughel; an excellent Ruysdael, and a landscape by Pinaker. The first room is an enormous vaulted banquetting-hall, of which the walls and ceiling are covered with *barocco* frescoes of some interest in the history of art. The composition is architectural, and has colossal figures which are very vigorous and full of movement.

But the great feature of this palace is the state bedroom, richly decorated in the same *barocco* style in the days of a certain Luisa Mansi, an ancestress of the present owner who was a celebrated beauty. Here there is another of those colossal state beds, like those we have noticed at the exhibition. It stands in a lofty alcove, partially screened off from the larger portion of the room by a gilded open-work partition ornamented with gilded figures in the heaviest *barocco* style. The bed itself, its hangings and canopy, the walls and furniture, are all of pale-yellow silk with many-coloured embroidery, and are softly gorgeous in effect.

In this room also are two easel-pictures of great merit—the first a Francia (*a Virgin and Child*), splendid in colouring, though somewhat feeble in design; and a fine portrait attributed to Velasquez. The adjoining cabinet contains a small but choice collection of antiquities, and some precious bits of blue-and-white china.

Another Mansi palace was shown to the public, but it contained nothing of special merit or interest. The Exhibition of Modern Paintings it is best to pass over in silence; but the Agricultural Show, on the contrary, was extremely interesting, and did honour to the province.

LINDA VILLARI.

#### DISCOVERIES AT SPATA IN ATTICA.

IN the number of the *Ἀθήναϊον* for October last (vol. vi., part 3) is a short summary of the discoveries which have been recently made in tombs at Spata in Attica. These discoveries have a special interest at the present time, because they have brought to light archaic remains very similar to those found by Dr. Schliemann at Mycenae. Spata is a village situated in the interior of Attica, between the north-eastern side of Hymettos and the sea, on a small hill, on the side of which and to the south of the village a square chamber cut in the rock was found accidentally at the depth of from five to six metres. On the eastern side of this chamber was a smaller one, also square, and to the north of this another still smaller chamber. The door leading into the great chamber was walled-up with small stones and earth, a small aperture being left at the top; the entrance to the two smaller chambers was free. In clearing out the passage leading to the great chamber were found many objects in glass or ivory and a few in silver, gold, bronze, and terracotta; also a few ashes and bones. These objects were found scattered about in the earth, as if the tomb had been anciently sacked, and some of its contents dropped by the plunderers in their way out. On examining the earth in the great chamber

various objects were found in like manner scattered through the soil, as if it had been turned over. It was only in the north-west corner of the chamber that the original deposit was found almost intact; here was found a layer of ashes and burnt bones very similar to the stratum which formed the bottom of the tombs at Mycenae. In the two smaller chambers the objects found dispersed through the soil were insignificant in value. Mr. Stamatakis, who had been charged by the Archaeological Society of Athens with the exploration of this site, discovered another tomb on the same hill-side, which, on being examined, presented the same appearance of having been anciently plundered, and he entertains hopes that the hill may contain other sepulchres reserved for future explorations. In the meantime the antiquities already obtained at Spata have been arranged at Athens in the new Polytechnicon, in immediate juxtaposition with those from Mycenae, in order that they may be studied in connexion. The objects found at Spata are upwards of 2,000; the materials out of which they are fashioned are gold, silver, bronze, ivory, glass (or some vitreous composition), terracotta. Neither inscriptions, nor coins, nor iron were found, nor any representation of deities or idols, except two fragments of vitreous composition fashioned in the likeness of the human form from the hips downwards, and a man's head carved in ivory. In the *Ἀθήραιον* are five plates of these antiquities, which comprise samples of objects in gold, bronze, glass, ivory, and stone. To anyone who has studied the subject a single glance is sufficient to show how closely these newly-discovered objects from Spata resemble the archaic remains from Mycenae and from the Rhodian Ialysos. The objects to which I would particularly draw attention are the ivory relief representing a lion devouring a bull (Plate B 8), which in style is like the best of the Mycenae representations of animal life; the ornaments in vitreous composition, in all five plates, many of which are almost identical with objects in a similar material found at Ialysos, while moulds in which such objects were cast were found at Mycenae (see Plate E, where two of these Mycenaean moulds are engraved for the sake of comparison). In Plate A is given (figures 5, 6) an ivory comb, on which is engraved a double row of sphinxes with outspread wings, which reminds me of the patterns on those shells (*Tridacna squamosa*) of which several specimens, whole or in fragments, have been found in Etruria, Canirus, Nineveh, and Palestine.

On Plate A is also a male head with a tall head-dress, carved in ivory, apparently, in the round, which has an Asiatic look. So far as I can judge from the engravings in the *Ἀθήραιον*, which are not accompanied by a description in the text, I should consider them to be of the same school as the antiquities from Mycenae, though perhaps of a somewhat later period. But we must wait for further and fuller information on this point.

C. T. NEWTON.

#### PICTURE EXHIBITIONS.

Two exhibitions of pictures in New Bond Street have recently opened—at the Fine Art Society's premises, No. 148, and at Messrs. Dickinson and Foster's, No. 114. At the former the leading feature of the display is the series of fifty crayon illustrations to *Faust*, by Herr A. Liezen Mayer, who is termed in the catalogue "Germany's ablest realistic painter." They were exhibited not long ago in Munich, with signal applause. We do not echo this applause, if it purports that Herr Mayer has entered subtly into the spirit of Goethe's great creation, or has shown anything like an imaginative or poetic gift of his own in art, for the designs appear to us to be mere externalism and studio-work of a marked kind: if, however, it is only a question of great cleverness, dashing power of getting a group and a composition to hang together, readiness of combination, and proficient vigour of hand, we join with much hearti-

ness in the chorus of approbation. At all events, the series cannot fail to be of interest to admirers of *Faust*. *Margaret at her Spinning-wheel* and *The Walpurgis Night, Margaret's Apparition*, are the best, or second to none; *Wagner going to Faust*, *The Dance of the Peasants, Easterday, Auerbach's Cellar (the Carouse and Mephistopheles Singing)*, *Mephistopheles Announcing to Martha her Husband's Death, At the Well, the Agony before the Mater Dolorosa, Valentine's Death, In the Cathedral, and Walpurgis Night, the Witches' Ride*, might also be noted for commendation. Throughout, however, the physiognomy of Mephistopheles is decidedly poor; far inferior to, though founded upon, that which Retzsch's outlines introduced early in the century: see, for instance, *Mephistopheles at Faust's Door*. Thirteen examples of the series have been engraved, and are procurable at different prices—one form is that of a volume "with English text by Mr. Arnold." Of other works—water-colours by artists who are not members of either water-colour association—we may specify: Harry Hine, *Misty Morning in Spring, Shafford Mill, St. Alban's*, graceful, with a true diaphanous effect of atmosphere; Arthur Severn, *Greenwich*, and *Shoreham*, both superior specimens; Cecil Lawson, *An Autumn Morning*, with soppy fullness of tint, a sun of pale salmon-pink, and a bevy of crows scattering in front—a genuinely fine work by a fine artist; C. F. Williams, *In Lustleigh Cleve, Devon, just before Sunrise*; Tyrel de Poix, *Afterglow on the Wyre*; Herbert Marshall, *A Sketch in the Strand*, asphaltting work; David Law, *A Highland Peat-moss*, treated with freedom and abundance; Bernard Evans, *A Lonely Valley, Cannock Chase*, with a very daring sky of clouded and stormy crimson—approaching the violent, yet impressive. "None of the drawings," says the catalogue, "have been previously exhibited, and all have been produced in 1877, for the most part being sketches taken during the past vacation."—At Messrs. Dickinson and Foster's gallery we find fewer things to notice specially. One of the most remarkable is by Mr. A. MacCallum—*A Sand-drift above Phyle on the Banks of the Nile, painted on the spot*; a singular realisation of bare heaped shifting sand, interesting because manifestly truth-telling in a high degree. The view is in sunlight with dark shadows, but it does not look rightly sunny. With this we may couple—Meyer, *Evening in Wales*, and *Moonlight*; Thomas Davidson, *The Arch, Lyme Regis*; Mrs. Bodichon, *A Study of Flowers*, in a good, broad, flat, greyish tone; A. B. Donaldson, *Parma*, a very characteristic well-felt little view.

#### NOTES ON ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY.

A PAPER of more than local interest, on "The Mayer Collection, considered as an Educational Possession," was read at their last meeting before the members of the Liverpool Art Club. The author, Mr. Charles T. Gatty, gave many details of the history and contents of several departments of the Museum, of which he is Assistant-Curator, together with a few personal traits of its esteemed founder. His paper is, we believe, the first attempt at a comprehensive notice of this collection.

WE are enabled to-day to supply our readers, not, indeed, with an exhaustive list of the names of contributors to the approaching Winter Exhibition at the Grosvenor Gallery, but with many particulars not at our disposal last week (when we spoke of the contributions of the Queen), and only a few of which have in the interval been made public. Among the leading contributors of the drawings of Old Masters will be the Earl of Warwick; Mr. Holford; Mr. Frederick Locker; Mr. John Malcolm, of Poltalloch, who contributes, we hear, about one hundred drawings of the most chosen of the schools of Italy; and Mr. William Russell, who lends a series of drawings by Rembrandt which will be of extreme interest, and an exceedingly fine drawing

by Gabriel Metz, whose works in this field of art are of extreme rarity. Mr. Mitchell will send some valuable early drawings. Six fine drawings by Canaletto—very free drawings, executed with the reed pen, and not with a tint, as is more usual in the works of the late Venetian master—have been secured for the Gallery. In the collection of designs by artists of the French school there will be found drawings by Watteau and Greuze, though whether the whole much-esteemed series of Watteau's drawings in the possession of Miss James will be available is, we believe, still matter of doubt. Again, there will be contributed from France itself some exquisite designs by Prudhon, a master whose work has rarely been seen in England; and some pastels by a more recent artist, Jean Francisque Millet, with whose name and labours the English public has fortunately had greater opportunity of becoming familiar. Turning to the English school, we may mention, among the works of our eighteenth-century artists, a very fine drawing by George Morland, which will be contributed by Mr. Whitehead. The collection of Mr. John Henderson, of Montagu Place, will be represented by works of the earlier masters of our school. Mr. Quilter, a well-known collector—one of whose collections has already been dispersed at Christie's, but who, instead of abandoning, would appear to have resumed "the pursuit"—has promised, it has been already announced, to exhibit some drawings by Turner which are of considerable importance; and certain North Country collectors will furnish to the Gallery interesting examples of the work of some of Turner's more illustrious contemporaries. There will be some extremely fine drawings by John Cozens; while the homelier landscape art, which is more distinctively English, will find representation in (*inter alia*) certain productions by the more eminent men of the Norwich landscape-school, some of whose drawings are to be lent from collections which have been in the eastern counties ever since the lifetime of the artists whose works they include.

THE series of drawings of the Abbey Church of St. Albans by which Mr. Neale gained the "Pugin Studentship" have been copied by photolithography, and will shortly be issued to subscribers. Beside perspective views, elevations, and sections, they include specimens of the more important details in stone, glass and wood, forming a more complete illustration of the building than, we think, exists for any other of our English churches. The interest of the subject and the beauty of the execution will render the volume as acceptable to unprofessional lovers of art as the accuracy of the drawing will make it valued by architects. The frontispiece is a facsimile of a panel from the recently-discovered painted ceiling in the choir—representing an angel holding the shield of St. Alban. The colour is so charming as to make one wish that some of the painted glass could have been reproduced in the same style instead of the colour being merely indicated. We understand that the stones have been destroyed, and that there are not many copies left unsubscribed for, so that the book will probably soon be very rare.

AN Exhibition of Free-Hand Drawings, now held, we believe, at the offices of the London School Board on the Thames Embankment, is not considered by some who have gone over it with minute care to show any considerable result for such time as may have been devoted by the pupils in the London Board Schools to this branch of work. Complaints are made that the achievements of the pupils and the pupil-teachers are pretty much on the same level, and that this is by no means a high one, even when judged by the modest standard accustomed to be applied in elementary schools. It is naturally beyond the power of the School Board to afford to its scholars the opportunity of advanced or highly accomplished teaching, and the present display of drawings may probably be the cause of some renewal



of the debate as to whether or not any substantial service is rendered to society or the individual instructed by the acquirement by large numbers of the population of some smattering only of the very rudiments of design. We can conceive it possible that on both sides there may be something to be said.

ON Wednesday the 31st ult., the fourth annual competition between the sketching clubs of the Schools of Art in the metropolis took place at the Dudley Gallery, Piccadilly, which was kindly lent by the committee for the occasion. Five sketching clubs engaged in the competition—viz., The South Kensington (Male and Female), Lambeth, West London, and the "Gilbert" (St. Martin's); and a total of 202 sketches in oil, water-colour, chalk, clay, and plaster, were contributed. The judges were Sir John Gilbert, R.A.; Mr. W. F. Woodington, A.R.A.; and Mr. A. Legros, who finally made the following awards:—Award of honour to that club which produced the best aggregate of work, to the Lambeth Club; the prizes, of 3*l.* each (the funds for which are provided by the different clubs), for Figure, *A Critical Moment*, Mr. H. G. Glindoni, of the "Gilbert" Club; Landscape: *A Grey Day*, Mr. J. W. Wilson, of the "Gilbert" Club; Sculpture: *A Critical Moment*, Miss H. Montalba, of the South Kensington Club; Animals: *On the Look-out*, Mr. Montefiore, South Kensington Club; Design: *A Decorative Panel*, three prizes of 1*l.* each to Messrs. C. Reich and W. Swain, of the West London Club, and Mr. Pearce, of the Lambeth Club.

A FINE marble group, representing *Religious Liberty*, designed and modelled in Rome by Mr. Ezekiel, of Cincinnati, has recently been set up in Fairmont Park, Philadelphia.

THE death is announced of Ferdinand Becker, a young German painter, whose picture of *Jews at the Synagogue* won for him a considerable reputation, which he has since sustained by several other clever works. He died at the age of thirty-one.

It may be interesting to Dürer students to learn that in the current number of the *Kunst-Kronik* is published a literal copy, with the original spelling, of the documents concerning Dürer, written by Wilhelm Kress von Kressenstein at the end of the sixteenth century in a thin folio volume, now preserved in the Berlin Museum. These documents consist chiefly of a catalogue of Dürer's woodcuts and copperplates as known to Kress, and a list of his principal paintings; but neither list is at all complete, the writer's intentions apparently not having been carried out. The work is merely valuable as showing the names of several of the plates at that date, and for the evidence it affords concerning certain doubtful works, such as the *St. Katherine* and the *St. Barbara*, which are here cited as originals. The so-called *Degenknopf* of Maximilian is merely spoken of as *The Little Crucifixion*.

AMONG the numerous annexes forming part of the plan of the French Exhibition of 1878, one, we hear, is to be devoted entirely to a series of paintings by M. Félix Régamey, of the *Illustrated News*. The French Government have paid M. Régamey the compliment of according him a State studio during the execution of these works, which are intended to illustrate scenes met with during the artist's recent journey round the world. Thus one of the subjects is a *Prayer Meeting among the Shakers*; and *The Rites of Cremation in India*, *A Negro Baptism in America*, and *A Victim of Leprosy in China*, are also mentioned as being nearly completed. The Government propose, after the Exhibition is over, to permanently instal these works in a gallery specially set apart for them in the Museum at Lyons. M. Régamey is well known in England as well as in France, as an able artist and indefatigable worker. Besides these pictures for the French Exhibition, he has lately

executed a series of cartoons on Japanese subjects, which are about to be published by MM. Charpentier in Paris, under the title of *Promenades Japonaises*. These will afterwards be issued by Messrs. Chapman and Hall.

*L'Art* is publishing the course of lectures on Nicolas Poussin delivered this summer by M. Georges Berger at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts. Unlike most writers on the subject, M. Berger deems that Poussin, who has been called "le peintre de la raison et des gens d'esprit," was entirely French in his genius. "Il ne doit rien," he says, "à l'art italien de son époque, bien qu'il ait passé toute sa vie en Italie." Students of his works will be likely to find this teaching very difficult to accept.

A CAREFUL study of the little-known French master, Louis-Léopold Boilly, is contributed by M. Jules Houdoy to the last two numbers of *L'Art*. The article is enriched by two excellent etchings by Milius from Boilly's works—portraits of Isabeau and de Taunay together, and one of Swebach, both pictures being studies for his celebrated painting of the *Interior of the Atelier of Isabeau* in the Lille Museum.

THE *Portfolio* this month contains an able and well-studied article, by C. C. Townshend, on "Domestic Architecture and Decoration in England," a subject that at the present day is claiming much attention, although some years ago "it was characteristic of the typical Englishman to consider the furnishing and decoration of his house as little worthy of his time and thought." Mr. Townshend extols the "Queen Anne revival" at present in vogue, as "based upon the natural fitness of things." The eighteenth-century style adapts itself, no doubt, more easily than the fourteenth to modern requirements; but what is wanted in decoration is a true and individual nineteenth-century style, and not the servile copying of that of any past period. Prof. Colvin is bringing his interesting series of articles on "Albert Dürer: his Teachers, his Rivals, and his Followers," to a close. In the present number he deals especially with Heinrich Aldegrever, but notices also several other minor German masters of about the same date. Aldegrever is important rather, perhaps, on account of the quantity of his work than from any superlative excellence in its quality. He has not the poetic feeling of Barthel Beham, nor the marvellous skill of Sebald, nor the quaint invention of Lucas van Leyden; but, like all the Little Masters, he is wonderfully dexterous in the use of the graver, "his touch being," as Prof. Colvin affirms, "alike brilliant, patient, varied, and characteristic." An album of photographic reproductions of his work has lately been published in Germany, consisting in the main of his ornamental designs, of which he executed a large number for goldsmiths and others. The two Amand-Durand prints given in illustration in the *Portfolio* are from his series of *Dives and Lazarus*.

AMONG the antiquities found in the new quarter of the Castro Pretorio at Rome were several stone tablets anciently used by idlers in games of chance. These tablets were usually of marble, either carved or roughly scratched. They had three horizontal lines equidistant from each other, and each of these had twelve signs, such as circles, vertical lines, leaves, letters, monograms, diagonal crosses, and semicircles. Many of them had words instead of signs, numbering in all thirty-six letters, and so arranged that each line contained twelve, these signs and letters being used to denote the points made in throwing the dice. There were two players, and the three lines were divided into two parts, in each of which the player marked his points; the words chosen had each six letters, which taken together form a sentence, either alluding to the fortune or vicissitudes of the game, the art and dexterity of the player, or—as in the one found at Castro Pretorio—describing the excellent supper provided for those who frequented the hotel to which that

tablet belonged. The method of playing was to throw three dice, numbered from one to six, and whoever threw eighteen, or arrived first at that number, won the game. The tablet found at Castro Pretorio had the following words, composed of thirty-six letters, eighteen in each part, divided into horizontal lines:—

Abemus	In Cena
Pullum	Piscem
Pernam	Paonem;

and underneath was inscribed *Venatores*, or "hunters;" this tablet dates back to the third century.

WE have received from Messrs. Buffa et Fils, of Amsterdam, through Messrs. Dulau, of Soho Square, the three last parts of the series of etchings by Unger after pictures in the Museum of Amsterdam. By the issue of these parts the work is brought to a conclusion, and the amateur may become possessed of what are in all cases adequate memoranda, and in some cases adequate reproductions, of many of the most celebrated pictures in the chief Dutch collection. In this last issue, as in the earlier ones, the inequality of Herr Unger's remarkable skill is apparent, unless, indeed, it be that the inequality of the work is not so much the result of varying power as of the willingness to make comparatively slight memoranda of certain subjects, and the determination to make the worthiest possible record of others. Now to the very fine landscape by Isaac van Ostade, given in the most recent issue, the etcher does not appear to us to have done entire justice. The distance, which, indeed, is generally a strong point in Herr Unger's work, is delicate; but the relations of tone among the house or farm buildings of the front leave, we fancy, something to desire. A sea-piece, a calm, *Près de la Côte*, by William van de Velde—an exquisite gem of that great man's art, which somehow escaped due notice from M. Bürger, when he was writing about the Amsterdam Museum—Herr Unger has rendered with perfect ability. We cannot imagine any more skilful translation into black and white of the colours and tones of this famous painter of marines. The whole stillness of the scene, with calm moist air, mirror-like water, and spread sails unstirred, is on the plate of the etcher. Another plate on which Herr Unger has undoubtedly worked with all possible pains and assiduity is that on which he has interpreted the *Ronde de Nuit* of Rembrandt, though the golden and orange light represented in this picture is not that of night, but of the Dutch sun, as all recent observers are agreed, and it is therefore under the title of "Franz Banning Cock's Company" that the work now translated by Unger should universally be known. While preserving for us as much as was in his power the marvellous lighting of the original, and faithfully conveying its crowded and abundant action, Herr Unger in some of his studies after the secondary or background figures has followed the master with such a sympathetic hand as has been possessed by scarcely any other interpreter. The rendering of the picture appears to us throughout to be thoroughly worthy. It is more instinct with life than any other reproduction of the same work with which we are acquainted. A word should be given to the plate in which Herr Unger has conveyed for us some of the humours of Jan Steen, one of the most variously-gifted of the Dutch masters of comedy, of whom it was said lately, in *Temple Bar*, and perhaps not without truth, that he photographed debauchery, and "knew the depths of the abandoned, and was so refined that the subtlest and most changeable expressions of the sweetest and most meditative face became possessions of his memory." Now, of the charm and sweetness thus indicated, the *Noce de Village*, selected for representation by Unger in his later numbers, does not convey much hint; and it is certainly without sign of very gross debauchery. Yet of his humour it is very significant. M. Bürger was

right, no doubt, years ago, in implying that its execution was not of the first order. Finer Jan Steens undoubtedly exist, as far as execution is concerned; but this is at least a subject which displays rather unusually well, not only the artist's skill in composition, but that sense of familiar comedy which was seen to have been so keen in him. Herr Unger's reproduction is a very pleasant and instructive one. We need not discuss in detail the remaining subjects of the latter part of the etcher's series; but it should be said at least that he has done many of us a service in recalling, by the means of his skilful prints, the work of some men whose celebrity has not hitherto been great and wide enough to have induced any first-rate master of engraving to cope with the translation of their pictures. Herr Unger, in the admirable, though, as we have plainly indicated, not faultless, series now brought to an end, has given us great variety of subject, and his treatment of the less generally known, such as certain pupils of Rembrandt (Fabritius, for instance, whom only recent years have revealed), has been in more than one case as excellent as his treatment of the more familiar masters.

### MUSIC.

MR. THEO. MARZIALS is preparing a series of *Choice Songs from Living Poets*, in which lyrics of Mr. Browning, Miss Rossetti, Mr. Swinburne, Mr. W. B. Scott, and others, will be set to music. The first of these, "Félice," will appear immediately.

LAST Saturday being within one day of the thirtieth anniversary of the death of Mendelssohn (November 4, 1847), the programme of the Crystal Palace Concert was chiefly selected from that composer's works, and included the overture to *St. Paul*, the song "Jerusalem" from the same oratorio, well sung by Miss Mary Davies, and the *Hymn of Praise*, in which the solo parts were sustained by Miss Robertson, Miss Mary Davies, and Mr. Barton McGuckin. Señor Sarasate was again the violinist, bringing forward a new (MS.) concerto by Max Bruch, composed expressly for him. As this thoughtful and elaborate work will probably be heard again before long, we defer till a future occasion a detailed notice, merely saying that the solo part was magnificently played by Señor Sarasate, and that the performance was conducted by the composer.

THE first of a new series of Saturday concerts at the Alexandra Palace was given last Saturday, under the direction of Mr. Frederick Archer. As at the Crystal Palace, a Mendelssohn selection was given, comprising the Italian Symphony, the overture to the *Midsummer Night's Dream*, recitatives and choruses from *Christus*, and songs. The second part of the concert was miscellaneous.

MR. WALTER BACHE gave a pianoforte recital at St. James's Hall on Monday afternoon, with a very interesting and attractive programme, the chief items of which were Beethoven's Sonata in E major (Op. 109), and Thirty-two Variations in O Minor; and Bach's Chromatic Fantasia and Fugue. Mr. Bache also gave a selection of smaller pieces by Chopin and Liszt. It is needless to repeat what has often been said as to the high artistic qualities of Mr. Bache's playing. He was assisted by Mr. Santley as vocalist, and Mr. Zerbini accompanied.

THE programme of Herr Franke's second concert of this season, given on Tuesday evening in the concert-room of the Royal Academy, included a MS. sonata for piano and violin, by Mr. C. Villiers Stanford, played by the composer and Herr Otto Peiniger; Dr. Macfarren's string quartet in F, given by Messrs. Franke, Peiniger, Holländer, and Lasserre; Brahms's piano quintet in F minor, in which the above-named gentlemen were joined by Mdme. Haas; Bach's Prelude and Fugue in A minor (Mdme. Haas); and vocal music by Mdme. Sophie Löwe.

THE second of Mr. Shedlock's Classical Musical Evenings was given at the Victoria Hall, Archer Street, Bayswater, on Wednesday evening. The first part of the concert was entirely selected from the works of Schumann, and included the Phantasietücke (Op. 88), for piano, violin, and violoncello; two of the Romances (Op. 94), for piano and violin; the "Carnaval" (Op. 9), for piano solo; the Adagio and Allegro (Op. 70), for piano and violoncello; and songs by Miss Mary Davies and Mr. Stedman. The miscellaneous second part contained as its chief items three movements from one of Bach's violin sonatas played by Mr. Wiener; a violoncello solo by Herr Lütgen; and for the finale, Mozart's lovely, though not often heard, piano trio in E major. The third concert, on Wednesday week, is to be a "Beethoven night."

THE eighth volume of Mendel's great *Musikalisches Conversations-Lexicon*, which has just been published (Berlin: Robert Oppenheim), shows no less thoroughness of workmanship and completeness of detail than the preceding volumes. The new editor, Dr. Reissmann, is evidently resolved that the work shall be completed within a reasonable time; for in the Preface he informs us that nearly the whole of the material for a great part of the next volume is now ready for the press. The volume before us extends from "Paix" to the end of the letter "R." Among the chief biographical articles are those on Palestrina, Philidor, Piccini, Joachim Raff, Rameau, Reicha, Reichardt, Riedel, Rimbault, A. and B. Romberg, Rossini, Rubinstein, and F. W. Rust; while of the theoretical and historical articles, those on "Partitur," "Phantasie," "Philosophie der Kunst," "Pianoforte," "Pianofortestil," "Posaunensatz," "Recitative" (several articles), "Rhythmus," "Romantik," "Rondeau," and "Russische Musik" are particularly excellent. In the last-named article it is a little confusing to find the name of Tchaikowsky printed as "Cajkowskij." As in earlier volumes, we have noted a few omissions, which it will be well to point out. In the short biography of Guillaume Paque, the violoncellist, no mention is made of his death, which took place some time since in London; while Dr. Rimbault's Christian name (Edward Francis) is not given at all. The notice of the kettle-drums (*Pauken*) is also incomplete. It is stated that drum parts are always written in the key of C. This was formerly the case, but (as most musicians are aware) it is so no longer, as drums are tuned in such various ways that the old system of notation would be impracticable.

A NEW opera in two acts, *La Surprise de l'Amour*, the text by M. Monselet, from a comedy by Marivaux, the music by M. Ferdinand Poise, was produced at the Paris Opéra-Comique on the 31st ult. The music is well spoken of, but the libretto is said to be wanting in contrast.

JOHANN HERBECK, one of the most distinguished musicians of Vienna, and conductor of the Philharmonic Society and the Italian Opera in that city, died on the 28th ult., at the age of forty-six.

### NEW PUBLICATIONS.

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1877.

No. 289, New Series.

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## LITERATURE.

*Stock Exchange Securities.* By Robert Giffen. (London: George Bell & Sons, 1877.)

THIS essay belongs to a class of enquiries—into the actual phenomena of the economic world as distinguished from inferences from theoretical assumptions—to which the attention of economists cannot be too urgently invited. They were formerly too much disposed complacently to imagine themselves in the possession of a key to every lock—the locks they opened being made to fit the key, instead of the key to fit the lock. Mr. Mill, in a well-known essay (which, however, was not republished in his lifetime), observed that while an economist had no certain test of his competence to deal with the real facts of life, an infallible test of his incompetence was at hand. If he were puzzled by any recent or present commercial phenomenon, he might be sure that his system of opinions was not a safe guide. Many of Mr. Mill's disciples might well think this "an hard saying," if they were alive to the severity of such a criterion. Before the publication of Mr. Goschen's treatise on the *Foreign Exchanges*, it is clear from their works that the chief writers on political economy imperfectly understood that great class of commercial phenomena, together with several collateral subjects. It would not be surprising, accordingly, if Mr. Giffen, though bringing qualifications of a high order to the task, should not always prove a sure guide in what is, as he says, practically a new field of enquiry.

The definition of Stock Exchange Securities at the beginning of his first chapter seems to us hardly adapted to explain their nature to readers unfamiliar with such matters: "The combination of interest-bearing power with the facility of being handled like gold or cotton makes a Stock Exchange article a thing *sui generis*." A capacity of being "handled like gold or cotton" seems a somewhat incongruous metaphor to apply to securities of any kind, and a few examples would have better conveyed the author's meaning. Various securities, moreover, not actually dealt with on the Stock Exchange are quite as divisible and as easily counted and "manipulated" as those which are, and also bear interest. In Mr. Ricardo's time the public debts of a few States constituted nearly the entire mass of Stock Exchange securities, and his theory of profits might have been different on some points had his range of experience in his own business been wider. The only

line of demarcation seems to be one of fact; some securities are not dealt with by the Stock Exchange, although not incapable from their nature of being so. Mr. Giffen himself, indeed, appears to admit that some other securities possess the two characteristics by which he distinguishes those which form the subject of his essay.

In his second chapter Mr. Giffen follows the inconvenient practice of the City, as opposed to that of most modern economists, in using the word "price" to denote general value, instead of appropriating it to value in money. This use of the word is a constant source of confusion to both readers and the writer himself, the latter being apt to employ it now in the special and now in the general sense, as Mr. Giffen does in page 8. In the next page he speaks of "money-price"—needless tautology if "price" were kept to its proper use—in a "proposition which is not quite accurate: "If there is a general fall in money-price in one group of articles, this means a rise in money-price in all the other groups." A fall in one group might be counterbalanced by a rise in one or two other groups; a rise in all other groups is highly improbable. A rise in corn might occasion either a rise or a fall in the price of meat according to the circumstances of the population.

The last two chapters are those which seem to stand most in need of examination and discussion, and we must therefore pass over the intermediate chapters, although these contain much that is deserving of attention, and explain several matters not generally understood. The substance of chapter x. is in the main useful and instructive; but the form given to it, and some of the phrases used in it, are likely to mislead many readers, and to foster a very dangerous illusion on the part of both persons in trade and investors in securities. The chapter is headed "The Cycle of Prices in Securities," and we are told (p. 103), "that there is ordinarily a cycle in all prices may now be considered an established doctrine in political economy;" and, p. 145, "The most important factor in the changes in the price of securities, as in the price of commodities, is the cyclical change in the state of credit, which is now an established law of business." The most vigilant scrutiny should be applied to every theory in economics claiming the authority of a law. We must not believe every spirit, but try the spirits, for many fictions are gone out to the world as laws. If by a cycle in credit and prices all that is meant is that prices are not stationary, but rise and fall at irregular intervals, no expert statistician, or City editor, is needed to tell us as much. But it is a misuse of terms to call variations of that sort cyclical. A cycle is a circle, and properly signifies a regular periodical movement like that of a planet in its orbit, or the revolution of the earth on its axis, with the recurrent phenomena consequent thereon. It is in this sense that the phrase has been used in reference to an alleged decennial cycle in credit, and a decennial commercial crisis. We have even heard a distinguished professor connect this alleged cycle with the periodicity lately observed in the variations of sunspots, although it is only in some parts of

India that corresponding variations in the rainfall occur, and it is certain that seasons of abundance and scarcity follow no cycle in the West. Mr. Giffen, however, after calling a cycle in prices an established doctrine in political economy, adds:—"Several acknowledged authorities have given their opinion to this effect, and have also collected a mass of evidence in its favour. I would instance especially Mr. Tooke in his *History of Prices*." In point of fact, the evidence collected by Mr. Tooke is decisively in the opposite direction. He begins by proving from the history of agriculture that "there is nothing unwarranted by experience in the supposition of the more frequent recurrence of unfavourable seasons in intervals of twenty years and upwards than in intervals of equal length immediately preceding or succeeding." He then proves that the main cause of the high range of the prices of food from 1793 to 1818 was the frequent recurrence of unfavourable seasons, there having been in that period no fewer than eleven deficient harvests; while the low range of prices from 1818 to 1837 was caused mainly by the fact that there were only five unfavourable seasons in the latter twenty years. And the other causes of the variations in prices in the two periods will be seen on a reference to Mr. Tooke's volumes to be subject to no periodicity or regularity of recurrence.

Mr. Giffen cites Mr. Bagehot as giving his suffrage for the doctrine of a cycle, in his *Lombard Street*. Mr. Bagehot, we may observe, alludes there to "the notion" that panics "come according to a fixed rule—that every ten years or so we must have one of them." And if the main cause of variations in the activity of credit and speculation, and consequently in prices, be, as Mr. Bagehot suggested, the stimulus given first to the great textile trades, and afterwards to other trades, by periods of cheap food, enabling the mass of the population to spend more than usual, it follows from the proof Mr. Tooke has adduced of the irregularity of periods of cheap foods that the movements of credit and speculation must be equally irregular. So far was Mr. Tooke, we may add, from supporting the "notion" of a decennial crisis that he points out that "in 1825 there was only one period of panic; in 1847 there were two such periods, broadly distinguished; and in 1847 each of the two panics of April and October was of longer duration than the single panic of 1825." The more closely the movements of credit, speculation, and prices, and the phenomena of panics and crises are examined, the more clearly will it appear that there is no periodicity, in the proper sense of the word, in their causes, and therefore there can be none in the effects; although, like "the double event" on the turf which happened at the end of two successive decades, they may sometimes fortuitously recur at regular intervals. Mr. Giffen cites Mr. Jevons; but the paper in which that distinguished writer lent some support to the doctrine of a decennial cycle was published a long time ago. And one economist no more makes a law than one swallow makes a summer; nor has any economist contended more strongly than Mr. Jevons for resting economic doc-

trine on reason and proof, instead of on authority.

In his eleventh chapter Mr. Giffen discusses the highly interesting questions, whether securities in the mass have risen or fallen since the period of free trade, and to what causes the change, if any, is due. He then adduces statistics indicative of a lower rate of interest and a correspondingly higher price of Consols and some other specific securities in 1876 than in 1846, and draws the conclusion that "there is an unmistakable tendency for capital to increase without finding an adequate outlet." This conclusion, again, he connects with the doctrine of the tendency of profits to a minimum. There is a good deal to give colour to that doctrine, yet it should be remembered that it was originally based on the tendency of corn to rise in price with the advance of population; and corn has certainly not risen since the establishment of free trade. Moreover, it was much harder to find investments for capital two hundred years ago than it is now, as Lord Macaulay has pointed out in a passage cited in Mr. Bagehot's *Lombard Street*. In the seventeenth century a lawyer or a merchant who had saved some thousands was often greatly embarrassed to place them safely and profitably. So great was the difficulty that Pope's father, on retiring from business, brought with him to the country a strong-box containing nearly twenty thousand pounds, from which he took out from time to time what was needed for household expenses. Lord Macaulay seems to have thought that at an earlier period this difficulty was not so much felt; but it was really the chief cause of the immense stocks of plate accumulated in private houses in the sixteenth century and before it.

T. E. CLIFFE LESLIE.

*Thoreau, his Life and Aims.* A Study. By H. A. Page. (London: Chatto and Windus, 1877.)

IF any believer in the doctrine of general average has turned his mind to the statistics of New England, we should be glad to know what he makes of the curious production of noteworthy citizens in the little town of Concord in the last half-century. Twenty years ago, Emerson, Hawthorne, Thoreau, Judge Hoar, the Alcotts (father and daughter), besides several other persons whose names are not so well known here, but of whom Concord has good reason to be proud, were all living in the township, and, we believe, claimed it as their birthplace. The university town of Cambridge, which lies within an easy drive on the Boston road, the natural centre of the brightest and most learned society of the old Bay State, could scarcely have furnished a more remarkable group; and the Western Athens herself (leaving political and commercial notabilities out of the count) certainly could not have done so. Up to that time, the claim of Concord to special distinction among New England townships rested on the ruins of the bridge across which the first shots were fired in the War of Independence, and the graves of the British soldiers who fell there. Now there is the "Old Manse," the mosses

of which Hawthorne has preserved; and Emerson's house, with the new library which his fellow-townsmen built for him after the fire, and which all readers of English trust he may yet enjoy for many years. These are solid structures which we may hope will not be allowed to disappear as has been the case with a neighbouring habitation of scarcely less interest—Thoreau's log-cabin. It was built by the "poet naturalist" in Walden Wood, some two miles distant from Concord, "in the middle of a young forest of pitch pines and hickories," in 1845, was inhabited by him for two years and two months, and then left to tumble down. Recent English pilgrims have reported that they could find no trace of it; and we rather infer from Mr. Page's book that no trace of it is to be found even by natives who know where to look for it. But if the visible tabernacle has disappeared, the spirit which inhabited it, and the idea which it was intended to illustrate practically, have gained rather than lost in interest. The thirty years which have passed since Thoreau came back out of Walden Wood, to attend to his father's business of pencil-making, have added more than the previous century to the "trappings and baggage" of social life which he held, and taught by precept and example, that men would be both better and happier for doing without. And while we succumb and fall year by year more under the dominion of these trappings, and life gets more and more overlaid with one kind and another of upholsteries, the idea of something simpler and nobler probably never haunted men's minds more than at this time.

And so a study of the life and aims of Thoreau should prove attractive, though there may be an inclination in our day to seek the higher life in the direction of new kinds of association rather than in solitude; and earnest young persons dissatisfied with the surroundings in which they find themselves may choose to follow Hawthorne to Brook Farm rather than Thoreau to Walden Wood. "The man who goes alone can start to-day," was one of his sayings (p. 184); "but he who travels with another must wait till that other is ready, and it may be a long time before they get off." It is this self-contained and self-sustaining temper which gives zest to all that Thoreau does and says, and makes him so thoroughly original. What he desires is "so to love wisdom as to live according to its dictates a life of simplicity, independence, magnanimity, and trust" (p. 176); and having come to the conclusion that "a primitive and frontier life in the midst of an outward civilisation" would best teach what the essential facts or "gross necessities" of life are—what a philosopher can and what he cannot do without—proceeded to live it in the wood nearest his own home. This determination to live simply rather than his love for birds and beasts and trees and sunsets seems to have been the motive of his life in the woods; but, whatever the motive, the result is fascinating. The wood-chucks and squirrels and mice he looked upon as "rudimental burrowing men, still standing on their defence, awaiting their transformation;" the birds were his sisters, and lived

with him without fear; he kept an account of all the plants, and would read out from his diary on what day each would bloom as a banker knows when his notes fall due. If waked up from a trance in the swamp he thought he could tell by the plants what time of year it was within two days (p. 61). "He knew the country," Emerson says of him, "like a fox or a bird, and passed through it freely by paths of his own. He saw as with a microscope, heard as with an ear-trumpet, and his memory was a photographic register of all he saw and heard."

Mr. Page is greatly attracted by this sympathy of Thoreau's with nature, and his strangely intimate relations with the animal creation, and gives many delightful illustrations of it (pp. 52, 53, 57, and 70, &c.), holding (if we understand him rightly) that his peculiar gifts fitted him specially to deal with outward things, and it would have been well if he had remained a quick-eyed and sympathetic recorder of the life of nature. He thinks that Emerson's influence had a deteriorating effect upon Thoreau, and developed an effusive egotism which appears in his writings when he leaves the ground of facts for general disquisition. We have no space to do more than refer to this interesting question (p. 262), which would require a more intimate acquaintance with Thoreau's writings than we possess to determine. So far, however, as appears on the face of this Memoir the influence of the master seems to have worked for good only. We question whether it was ever in Thoreau to become a great scientific naturalist. Indeed, he says as much himself in the singularly characteristic passage (quoted at p. 92) in which he protests against separating the life of the naturalist from his science, ending with a sentiment which to a scientific purist must sound, we take it, like rank heresy: "The purest science is still biographical; nothing will dignify and elevate science while it is sundered from the moral life of its devotee, and he professes another religion than it teaches." If it be replied that he would never have uttered such heresies but for Emerson and transcendentalism, one can only say that in that case we should have been the losers; for then the hermit of Walden would not have been himself, and we should have missed all acquaintance with one of the most attractive and distinct personalities of our time. As little can we share Mr. Emerson's sorrow that Thoreau's energy and practical ability led to no great enterprise:—"I so much regret the loss of his rare powers of action that I cannot help counting it is a fault in him that he had no ambition—wanting this, instead of engineering for all America he was the captain of a huckleberry party." Surely such regrets are scarcely in accord with the master's own teaching. The young American was always counselled by him to bide his time; to sit still, and only be careful not to lie, till his call came, as it surely would in due time. No great cause appealed to Thoreau until the Dred Scott case was decided, and it is difficult to see how he could have served the cause of Abolition more faithfully than he did from that hour. His speeches on the Slavery question, and in defence of John



Brown, whom he stood forward to justify when all Massachusetts was in doubt and temporising, show that he could lead bravely when he saw the occasion. In short, we are too grateful for Thoreau as he was to wish that the times or his teachers had made him anything else, and believe that many besides ourselves will be thankful to Mr. Page for having given us the best picture of the man which we have hitherto met with.

THOS. HUGHES.

*Histoire politique et diplomatique de Pierre-Paul Rubens.* Par M. Gachard. (Bruxelles: Office de Publicité, 1877.)

WE have at last before us the long-expected work in which the venerable chief of the hospitable Archives of Brussels traces the political and diplomatic career of the great artist of his country. He has certainly not spared himself trouble in his preparation for his work. He has collected his materials not only from Brussels itself, but from Paris and Vienna, Rome, Turin, Simancas, and the Hague. As far as our English Record Office is concerned, he found all that he needed in Mr. Sainsbury's *Original Papers relating to Rubens*, a work of which he speaks with the highest respect, and from which he has taken many valuable extracts.

"Le lecteur," writes M. Gachard, "a sous ses yeux l'énumération des documents qui ont servi à composer *L'Histoire politique et diplomatique de Rubens*."

"Il peut juger si j'ai épargné quelque peine pour la rendre aussi exacte, aussi complète qu'il était possible."

No well-advised reader would think of taking up this challenge. The thoroughness of M. Gachard's work can only be fully appreciated by one who, like myself, has been engaged in a similar investigation, and who finds, after all, how much he has to learn from the book. If any feeling of dissatisfaction crosses the mind, it is caused by the insufficiency of the aim which M. Gachard has set before himself, and not by the means which he has taken to reach it. "Personne," he says, "j'en suis convaincu, ne contestera, après avoir parcouru ce livre, que Rubens n'eût une véritable aptitude pour la politique et la diplomatie." That Rubens was a skilful diplomatist, no doubt, M. Gachard succeeds in proving, not by mere force of argument, but by printing the despatches in which Rubens recounts the success of his missions, or those from which we learn the effect which his presence had upon his opponents. For all that, his importance as a diplomatist is not likely to eclipse his importance as a painter. It is unnecessary to take notice of the superstition which holds that an artist degrades himself by meddling with politics; but at least we may ask of one who leaves the sphere in which he is supreme that he be possessed of the power of seeing political affairs in their real aspect, and of penetrating beneath the surface to those forces which are hidden from the eyes of ordinary men. Now, this is precisely what Rubens does not do. He is intelligent and sharp-sighted in his dealings with courtiers and statesmen; he easily places himself on friendly terms

with those whose intimacy it is important for him to acquire; and he tracks out with skill the plans of those whom he wishes to baffle. Thoroughly loyal to his employers, he has no self-esteem to gratify at their expense, no love of *finesse* to bring him into trouble. But we look in vain for the higher insight of the statesman. One despatch of his, written to urge Olivares to help Mary de Medicis and the Duke of Orleans against Richelieu, is printed entire by M. Gachard (p. 213), "parce qu'elle nous semble, plus qu'aucun des documents que nous avons recueillis, propre à faire apprécier le génie politique de son auteur." It is rather an evidence of weakness than of strength. Rubens fails entirely to recognise the mental power of Richelieu; and he also fails to see that, by taking the part of the discontented princes and nobles of France, the King of Spain would give to Richelieu the strength which a Minister always gains when he can represent himself as the champion of national independence. The following is the way in which Rubens treats the demand of the Duke of Orleans for Spanish money (p. 217):—

"La somme qu'il demande, quant à présent, est si petite qu'il ne nous paraît pas vraisemblable qu'il puisse avec cela faire un grand effet. Il est bien vrai que j'ai longuement représenté à la reine combien sont défavorables les conjonctures actuelles, et notre armée étant en face de l'ennemi en campagne, à laquelle nous ne pourrions, sans nous exposer à de très-grands inconvénients, retrancher rien de la solde pour l'employer ailleurs. Les besoins de Monsieur sont cependant si urgents, et il serait si déraisonnable de laisser échapper une si belle occasion, qui ne s'est pas présentée en cent années, qu'il faudrait faire de nécessité vertu et donner son sang pour la réputation et l'intérêt d'état de sa Majesté Catholique; car, certainement, la ligue catholique avec le duc de Guise et son frère, pour laquelle le roi Philippe II. dépensa tant de millions, n'était à comparer en aucune manière avec l'occasion qui se présente aujourd'hui."

In misjudging the relative strength of Richelieu and Gaston of Orleans, Rubens did not show that he was less intelligent than the average Fleming or Spaniard of his day. But he did show that, if he was a skilful diplomatist, he was not a unique statesman.

In point of fact, M. Gachard does not even aim at furnishing the materials for the formation of a full judgment on this head. No one can see whether Rubens was wise or unwise unless he has before him the whole course and tendency of European affairs during the artist's life. So far is M. Gachard even from hinting at this that he contents himself with keeping out of sight all that has no personal reference to Rubens himself. Thus, for instance, though the negotiation for the peace between Spain and England is fully detailed as long as Rubens was engaged upon it, it is allowed to drop almost entirely out of sight as soon as it gets into other hands.\* The book is in-

\* M. Gachard appears to mention with a shade of doubt the indubitably genuine secret treaty signed by Olivares and Cottington for an attack upon the Dutch Netherlands; he speaks of it as existing *sivante les historiens anglais*, and adds that he has been able to find nothing about it in the correspondence between Philip IV. and the Infanta Isabella preserved at Brussels. Not only, however, do several

tended to afford us materials for forming a judgment on Rubens' character as a politician. Our obligation to M. Gachard for furnishing us with those materials is very great, but it should be distinctly understood that a satisfactory judgment even on this point cannot be formed without a knowledge of much to which M. Gachard does not even allude.

SAMUEL R. GARDINER.

*A Ride through Islam: being a Journey through Persia and Afghanistan to India, via Meshed, Herat, and Kandahar.* By Hippius Cunliffe Marsh, Captain 18th Bengal Cavalry, F.R.G.S. (London: Tinsley Brothers, 1877.)

WE are glad that Captain Marsh has given the story of his long, dangerous and interesting journey in a more permanent, complete and presentable shape than his notes as originally published in the *Allahabad Pioneer*, and afterwards in pamphlet form. The account of his journey commences with the Dardanelles, but his long and continuous ride began from near Resht in the south-west corner of the Caspian, and proceeded by way of Meshed, Herat and Kandahar to the Bolan Pass and Sind. No part of this journey can be said to be over new ground, but the greater part of it has very rarely been traversed. As a mere ride Captain Marsh's journey is a very remarkable one, accomplished as it was without any European companion and with only one regular attendant. Indeed, it was a very bold adventure, and was much more dangerous than the few official or semi-official journeys which have been made of late years in the same or in neighbouring regions. He dwells, however, so little on the hardships and dangers of his journey that these will probably fail to strike the reader of his volume who is unacquainted from other sources with the character of the country which he passed through. It was his desire to pass from Kandahar to India by way of Kabul, but this route was closed to him, as he says, "by Nature and by the Ameer (or rather by our Indian Government)." Such a journey through Afghanistan would have been of great interest; but a journey to India through Meshed, Kandahar and the Bolan is so very rarely accomplished that a tolerable description of it could scarcely fail to be of interest and value. Captain Marsh has given a very fair and straightforward account of his adventures and of the information which he gathered by the way. He very seldom refers to the experience of his predecessors; he makes no attempt to give a general account of the countries and regions through which he passed, and his descriptive power is not of a high order. He is evidently no scholar, yet he too often introduces words of the Indian *lingua franca*, and recklessly explains them, sometimes giving a mere secondary application as their meaning. This is a point of more importance than the

documents at Simancas give many details about this treaty, but it is referred to several times in the correspondence of the Cardinal Infant with the Marquis of Velada in the Brussels Archives (*Sec. d'état espagnole*, No. 284, fol. 153, 201, 214, &c.).

misprints and the spellings different from their own which the *chiffonniers* of literature so eagerly grub after.

Even in Tiflis Captain Marsh had great difficulty in cashing circular notes, and he came to the conclusion that the Russian force in the Caucasus, large as it was, was not too large to keep the country quiet. Canoe-men and yachtsmen may be interested to learn that there is water communication from the Baltic to the Caspian by canals with locks, for boats not drawing more than four feet. In Persia he saw very little game. In Meshed, the holy city, that once dangerous hotbed of Mohammedanism, he was very well received, and was provided with an escort of horsemen to take him to Herat. He was shocked, however, by himself seeing three men suspended crucified, with large wooden tent-pegs driven through the hands, feet and body. There is a strong party still in Meshed which objects to Europeans being allowed to visit that city; and the escort provided for Captain Marsh forsook him on the second day of the journey, so that he had to find his way to Herat alone with his servant, unguarded, and only occasionally obtaining a single guide by virtue of a letter from the Governor which he carried with him. It is to be regretted that his account of this part of his journey is so very brief. At Herat he was the guest of Yakob Khan, the rebellious son of the Ameer of Afghanistan. Yakob, who was then under thirty, is described as well-bred, with a pleasant, intelligent face. He had partially instructed himself in the English language, and was very susceptible to personal influence.

According to Captain Marsh the danger of our present—or shall we say our late?—policy is that we are hardly known in Central Asia. "Our commerce is very poor; and not till the personal influence of our Agents and Politicians at Herat, Kandahar, Balkh, and Kabul, also in Yarkand, is felt, will our former prestige revive, and that of Russia diminish." His view is that our prestige and position with respect to Central Asian affairs has slowly but surely been driven back; that the present progress of Russia in the Khanates and their neighbourhoods may be found afterwards to be injurious to our commercial and other interests; that we might have had a wide area wherein to exert our influence, and to construct for ourselves a political and commercial frontier far beyond our own; that we ought not to be excluded from Afghanistan after giving the ruler of that country large sums in money and quantities of fire-arms; and that the advance of Russia in Central Asia is not to be looked upon with indifference by Englishmen. All this seems to me perfectly true so far as it goes. I hold our Central Asian policy for many years back unworthy of a great nation, and one which, often under pleas of philanthropy, has meanly ignored the responsibilities of a civilised Power. But, on the other hand, jealousy of Russia is equally weak as well as useless. It is often the duty, as well as the interest and destiny, of great nations to subdue savage tribes. No mere dog-in-the-manger policy can ever effectually restrain Russian advance; but it may do a great deal to educate Russia for

the mastership of Asia, suggesting designs which had no previous existence in the Russian mind.

ANDREW WILSON.

*The Authorship of the De Imitatione Christi*; with many Interesting Particulars about the Book. By Samuel Kettlewell, M.A. Containing Photographic Engravings of the *De Imitatione* written by Thomas a Kempis, 1441, and of two other MSS. (London: Rivingtons, 1877.)

AFTER the Bible itself the book which bears the title *De Imitatione Christi* has probably had the widest circulation ever attained by any religious work. Since the day when it was first printed by Gintner Zainer at Augsburg, in the year 1486, it has been published in almost all forms and in almost every tongue. And this work, which answered to so deep a need in the soul of man, crept at first silently into the world without an author's name; the writer seems to have wished to retire behind his work and leave it to find its way by its own merits.\* But men have not been content to accept the book as—in the words of Silvestre de Sacy—"the work, not of an individual, but of mankind;" a lively controversy as to its authorship has been carried on for several generations; not only theologians and religious orders, but the French Academy and the Parliament of Paris have been involved in the dispute.

Before the seventeenth century, the work before us was commonly attributed either to Thomas of Kempen, a Canon Regular of an Augustinian monastery near Zwoell, who died in 1471, or to the famous John Gerson, Chancellor of the University of Paris, who died in 1429. But early in that century a Jesuit, Rossignoli, found in the house of his Order at Arona, near Milan, a manuscript of the *Imitatio*, in which an abbot, John Gersen, or Gesen, was named as the author. As the house had once belonged to the Benedictines, he too hastily came to the conclusion that this book had belonged to the Benedictine library—which afterwards turned out not to be the fact—and that John Gersen had been a Benedictine abbot. This theory was adopted by one of the most famous Benedictines of that time, Constantine Cajetan, with an eagerness almost ludicrous. With no evidence beyond this simple inscription, Cajetan caused an edition of the *Imitatio* to be printed at Rome as the work of the "venerabilis vir Joannes Gesen, abbas ordinis S. Benedicti." As soon afterwards a copy of the Venice edition of 1501 was found, in which an unknown hand had written, "hunc librum non compilavit Joh. Gerson, sed Joannes abbas Vercellensis," it was at once assumed that John Gersen was abbot of the Benedictine house of St. Stephen at Vercelli; and he was further identified with Joannes de Canabaco, to whom another MS. attributed the work. The theory which attributes the *Imitatio* to Gersen, after being upheld by a series of Benedictine writers, has of late years been exhibited in a most attractive form by M. Renan, and after him by Mr. Benham.

"Non quaeras quis hoc dixerit, sed quid dicatur attende."—*De Unit.*, I., v., 1.

An argument against the attribution of the work to Thomas of Kempen, if not directly in favour of Gerson, is founded on the discovery of the express mention of a MS. of the *De Imitatione* in a diary belonging to an Italian family, De' Avogadri, seemingly under the date 1349—more than a century before Thomas's birth. The date and authenticity of this document are, however, much disputed; and, standing alone, it certainly cannot bear the weight of proof which is laid upon it.

For John Gerson it is to be said that the work is attributed to him in a dated MS. of the year 1441, when Thomas of Kempen was still living. Yet Peter Schott, the first editor of Gerson's works, did not include the *De Imitatione* in his collection, saying expressly that it belonged to Thomas of Kempen. The fact that many editions bore his name before 1500 adds nothing to the evidence of the MS., for it cannot be pretended that such books were critically edited. It is in the highest degree probable that "Gersen" is simply an erroneous writing of "Gerson;" and the abbot of Vercelli and John de Canabaco may very well be no more than the conjectures of mediaeval scribes.

There is thus a show of evidence in favour of Gerson and Gersen; but the proof in favour of Thomas of Kempen is almost overwhelming. For him alone are there contemporary witnesses, and witnesses whose means of knowing the truth cannot be questioned. The general style and manner, the form of the sentences, the rhythm, the very numerous Germanisms, the occurrence of phrases of the *Imitatio* in Thomas's acknowledged writings—all these circumstances form a chain of proof not easily broken. Moreover, there is actually extant a MS. of the *Imitatio* of the year 1441 written by the hand of Thomas himself, and now in the Bourgogne Library at Brussels. The book contains other acknowledged works of Thomas, and is subscribed by the writer at the end of the codex, after all the treatises, of which the *De Imitatione* stands first. This evidence is not, indeed, conclusive as to the authorship of the *Imitatio*, for the form of subscription is precisely the same as in some other codices of which Thomas was simply the copyist: yet it would be strange if he had included in the same volume with his own writings the work of another hand; he must have foreseen that it would probably be taken for his, and he was the last man to run such a risk.

Mr. Kettlewell is an ardent partisan of the claims of Thomas of Kempen; somewhat too ardent, indeed, for his book would gain in authority if he did not so manifestly regard all advocates of Gersen or Gerson as infringing the natural rights of Thomas. He looks upon him as the person in lawful possession, and all claimants as pestilent impostors. We entirely assent to his conclusion, but his bias has here and there led him to accept arguments which a cooler judgment cannot approve. For instance, in arguing against the authority of the Avogadri diary, he says that "the insignificance of the facts it recalls [records?] takes from it altogether any kind of value." Surely nothing can be more fallacious than this argument; we do



not expect a private diary to be filled with events of the first magnitude. If Mr. Pepys had received a valuable book as a present, he would certainly have recorded the fact in his diary, and it would be no argument against the genuineness of this entry that the next related to his wife's gown or his own wig. But, if he has sometimes been a little too eager to seize an argument, Mr. Kettlewell has given us a very full and careful account of the controversies relating to the authorship of the *Imitation*, and has come (we think) to the right conclusion. To be original where so much has been already written was almost impossible; and, in fact, so far as we have observed, Mr. Kettlewell has added little to the researches of the late Bishop Malou of Bruges,\* who had the advantage of writing a very much more attractive style than his English follower; but he has manifestly gone over the evidence independently with the more recent literature of the subject before him, and not merely epitomised Malou. Mr. Kettlewell's French, by the way, is not quite immaculate; he makes M. Renan say (for instance) that De Grégory's bad arguments "will inspire the reader with a sort of defiance against the best proofs" (p. 153); it should be "distrust" (*défiance*). It looks odd to see Marocco described as Maroc, Arona as Arone, Ivrea as Ivree, from a servile following of a French authority. The Abbé de Lamennais can scarcely be recognised under the form "Mennais" (p. 19).

Mr. Kettlewell tells us that "the work has extended to a greater length than was at first designed." It might with advantage have been shortened by the omission of Part I., which contains matter in no way bearing on a critical enquiry; the excellence and the influence of the *Imitation* might safely have been taken for granted. In the chapter on the *Imitation* as a "Precursor of the Reformation," we notice again a too-great readiness to adopt any expression which seems to make for the writer's views. He says (e.g.) that the *Imitation* teaches that men "should not trust in prayers for the dead;" what it really teaches is that men should not trust that their friends will pray for them, for they will probably forget. It seems to recognise the efficacy of such prayers if they are duly said. There is, in fact, no reason to doubt that the author of the *Imitation* accepted the current theology of his time, though he habitually dwelt in a region above every-day controversy.

S. CHEETHAM.

*Rise and Growth of the Anglican Schism.* By Nicholas Sander, D.D., sometime Fellow of New College, Oxford. Published 1585, with a Continuation of the History, by the Rev. Edward Rishton, B.A., of Brasenose College, Oxford. Translated, with Introduction and Notes, by David Lewis, M.A. (London: Burns & Oates, 1877.)

THE book of which this is a translation is tolerably well known, by name at least, to all who have read or written about the

\* *Recherches historiques et critiques sur le véritable auteur du livre de l'Imitation de Jésus Christ* (Second Edition, Louvain, 1849).

History of the Reformation. By many writers it has been denounced as a parcel of Jesuitical lies; but the present editor and translator is bent on vindicating his author's good name. Whether he is assisted in the process by altering the name itself we have some doubts; but we believe no one ever called the writer Dr. Sander until now. Anthony à Wood called him Saunders, and so the family name is spelt in county pedigrees; but the ordinary manner of writing it in English has been Sanders. The Latin form, Sanderus, which he used himself, affords no warrant whatever either for dropping out the *u* or omitting a final *s* in an English surname so common at the present day. But that is a secondary matter. Nicholas Sanders or Saunders belonged to an old and honourable family in Surrey. His father was sheriff of the county in 1556, at which time he himself must have risen to some eminence as a scholar, for next year he was giving public lectures on the Canon Law at Oxford, and the year following he was made Professor of Divinity. This was in Mary's reign. But soon after Elizabeth ascended the throne he resigned his fellowship, and went abroad with Sir Francis Englefield. He visited Rome, received priest's orders from one of the deprived English bishops, and devoted his life to the service of the Church. He never returned to his native country, but was sent as Nuncio into Ireland by Gregory XIII. in 1579, to stir up a rebellion against Elizabeth. There he died next year, or a year or two later, a wanderer and an exile, hiding himself from the officers of Queen Elizabeth, his end being involved in such obscurity that even his nephew, Pits, was uncertain of the exact year when it took place.

It was a melancholy life. To this man the whole history of his country from about the year in which he was born seemed nothing but a hideous revolution—a long fit of madness with one lucid gleam. To him the ties of nationality and allegiance had ceased to be ties at all, but were rather a bondage, to be cast away for the highest of all causes. During his exile he wrote books on the Visible Monarchy of the Church, and the History of what he called the English Schism; on the sacrifice of the mass, the adoration of images, justification, and almost all those doctrines concerning which the minds of men were in that day particularly divided. It would seem almost unnecessary to state that his views even of history were coloured by his creed, for which he had made so great a sacrifice. He believed he was doing a service to God and to the world in unveiling all the foul and monstrous things which in England it was treason even to hint at, that the causes which provoked and fostered the secession from Rome might be seen in all their native ugliness. Such a picture, even though true on the whole, we should naturally expect to be a little overdrawn.

Mr. Lewis, however, concurs in the author's view and considers the book a most trustworthy history. If he had contented himself with affirming the honesty of Sanders and vindicating his accuracy in some of the points in which it has been generally discredited, he would have taken ground from

which he could not easily have been dislodged. The story of the English Reformation is undergoing in our day such an examination as it never underwent before, and it seems a mere waste of time to attempt in any degree to palliate the conduct of those who took part in bringing it about. Little as the world believes, or ever has believed, in the conscientious scruples of Henry VIII., perhaps the strongest disbeliever in them a few years ago hardly expected such crushing evidence of their dishonesty as the progress of Mr. Brewer's Calendar has revealed to us; and, sad to say, a number of ugly facts in the private history of the Boleyn family, which the world has charitably disbelieved hitherto, now appear to be established by incontrovertible evidence.

Even here, however, Sanders has clearly gone too far; and the indignation his book excited is not wonderful. His aspersion of Queen Elizabeth's birth was a matter of course, for everybody knew that Henry VIII.'s first wife was alive when he married Anne Boleyn. There were things worse than this which, perhaps, everybody did not know, and for which he might have pleaded justification; but the horrible imputation that Anne Boleyn was Henry's daughter as well as his paramour did perhaps as much as anything could do to discredit many other statements which were strictly true. This, we have every reason to believe, was utterly impossible. It is true, facts almost as revolting have been proved correct, and there is no depth of immorality inconceivable in Henry VIII. It is true, also, whether the fact were so or not, that Henry was believed at one time to have been too intimate with Anne Boleyn's mother. But, that Anne Boleyn's birth took place under the circumstances recorded by Sanders would imply that she was a much younger woman than has hitherto been supposed; and even if this be conceded, as Mr. Lewis tries to persuade us that it should be, it would only throw additional discredit on other parts of Sanders's narrative. For Anne, as we shall see presently, is credited with a very eventful history long before Henry had determined on making her his wife; and if her future biographers are to accept the statements of Sanders, they will require to antedate her birth rather than to postdate it.

Sanders was, in truth, as Lord Herbert calls him, "more credulous than becomes a man of exact judgment." He believed, and was justified to a large extent in believing, the worst things of Henry VIII. and his relations with the Boleyn family; but he slightly overstated the case. In his desire to make Anne Boleyn infamous, he simply exceeds all bounds, and tries to persuade us that even her early life before her connexion with Henry was impure.

"At fifteen she sinned first with her father's butler, and then with his chaplain, and forthwith was sent to France, and placed, at the expense of the King, under the care of a certain nobleman not far from Brie. Soon afterwards she appeared at the French Court, where she was called the English mare, because of her shameful behaviour and then the royal mule, when she became acquainted with the king of France."

Yet Henry, it seems, was so blinded that he

knew nothing of this. After her return home, too, she became the paramour of Sir Thomas Wyatt, who, hearing that the King intended to marry her, went in great alarm to inform the Council of his relations with her, lest he should get into trouble. Still Henry would not believe it; and though Wyatt went to the King himself and offered to give him positive evidence of the fact, his intentions were frustrated by Anne, who, feeling her new position, kept him off; and the King remained more blinded than ever, declaring that Wyatt was a bold villain, not to be trusted. What a fine unsuspecting character Henry VIII. appears in the view of some of his enemies!

A man who could believe all this surely deserves the character that Herbert gave him. Whatever may be said for his honesty, Sanders certainly was not a judicious or impartial historian. Notwithstanding all he says of the King's passion for Anne Boleyn, he does not look upon this as the real origin of the Divorce, but traces it, as Harpsfield did, to Wolsey's disappointed ambition. He does not see, what able writers do not realise even now, that the King's imperious will forced men to become his instruments who were by no means depraved, but who would rather have abstained from acting in the matter, or taken the opposite side. He states positively, what unfortunately is not the case, that Pole from the first refused to do the King's dirty work, and that Warham earnestly pleaded the cause of the Queen. He cannot believe that anyone who, on the whole, was a good Catholic ever favoured or assisted the King's design. If he had been less prejudiced, or more fully informed, he would have discovered that no statesman of that time except Sir Thomas More succeeded altogether in preserving his integrity; that More himself kept aloof from State employment as long as he could to avoid contamination; that he resigned it for conscience' sake, and fell a victim to the tyrant's disappointment. It was not to be expected that many men would do the like.

We must add a few words on Mr. Lewis's portion of the work. As an editor he is not always wise, and as a translator he is not always accurate. His long Introduction and copious footnotes, while they give evidence of his industry, do not say much for his impartiality. They are both intended mainly to vindicate the credibility of his author, which he often does by far-fetched arguments in the one, and by unsatisfactory authorities in the other. How is the accuracy of Sanders corroborated by the frequent citation of a writer like Harpsfield, who took the same side a little earlier? Besides, footnotes employed for such a purpose are so manifestly partial and one-sided that they would be much better away. It is hopeless to discuss in footnotes, as Mr. Lewis continually pretends to do, the real bearings of historical facts.

As to the translation, a very slight comparison with the original has revealed to us inaccuracies, some of which are evidently due to mere carelessness, and some apparently to the translator's bias. In reference to the last days of Henry VIII. we read:—"It was said that he had no blood left in his

body—that it was corrupted into humours." The original does not say "into humours," but "into fat" (*in pinguedinem exuberasse*). A little inaccuracy of Sanders is concealed by stating that Prince Arthur died in "less than six months" after his marriage. The author distinctly says "after five months," and it is certain that Prince Arthur died within the five months; but surely it is the business of the translator to show us what the author actually says, not what he should have said. In the very same passage, *summa nocte* is translated "that night," instead of "at night," or "at dead of night," a point by no means insignificant in the case referred to, considering how every circumstance relating to the marriage with Prince Arthur furnished matter of dispute in those days. There is more to be said, from one point of view, for the translator's use of general terms in certain cases where the author's words are perfectly definite. But if considerations of delicacy prevent a translator from doing his work so thoroughly as in a controversial work of this kind is desirable, it is to be regretted that Mr. Lewis has not thought fit to re-edit the original text, or at least extract the passages in question. A translation of Sanders which does not after all give us Sanders's exact statements in any form is not a very valuable contribution to historical literature. JAMES GAIRDNER.

#### NEW NOVELS.

*Sheen's Foreman.* By Lady Wood. (London: Chapman & Hall, 1877.)

*Willon of Cuthbert's.* By the Rev. H. C. Adams. (London: Griffith & Farran, 1878.)

*Nicholas Minturn.* By J. G. Holland. (New York: Scribner; London: Sampson Low & Co., 1877.)

*A Great Emergency, and other Tales.* By J. H. Ewing. (London: George Bell & Sons, 1877.)

*Disappeared from Her Home.* By Mrs. F. E. Pirkis. (London: Remington, 1877.)

*The Last Grave of the Nibescos.* From the German of Emil Vacano, by E. W. Spencer. (London: Remington, 1877.)

LADY WOOD's new book is a history of farm life in Cornwall at the beginning of this century. All the characters, with the trifling exceptions of a curate and an old lady, are strictly rustic, and their manners, customs, loves, amusements, and general way of life, are displayed with much care. There is, of course, a love-story, the lovers being cousins, and one of them a rightful heir who is wrongfully kept out of his own by his uncle, who ill-treats him into the bargain. The two lovers come together in an odd sort of way at the end of the book, the young man being content to take the young woman without apparently caring much about the matter. Indeed Ben, the hero, is not a success; he looks as if he had been at first intended for something else, and as if the author had decided that the something else was too much trouble. Lucy, his beloved, is much better, and many of the minor personages are very good. There is a curious air of lazy contemplation about the book, as if its author had written it, or

rather dictated it, in the shadow of Vivien's hawthorn-tree. Many of the scenes gain thereby not a little, but sometimes the result is too much that of a series of sketches. It does not do to have a hero rapt away as a ploughboy and brought back as a finished gentleman, with hardly any explanation of the process between; the effect generally produced is as of a book with one hero at the beginning, and another at the end. Nevertheless, one reads it through, and with some interest, which is more than can be said of the generality of books. But we should like to know, if, as Lady Wood says, nobody reads the *Waverley Novels* now, how it is that constant new editions of them persist in appearing. Perhaps Lady Wood thinks that the publishers give them away?

Novels of university life have been comparatively rare of late years—for what reason it is not very easy to say. Whether the quite remarkable failure of *Tom Brown at Oxford*, as compared with its forerunner, frightened aspirants; or whether the larger number of persons who actually go to Oxford or Cambridge has lessened curiosity; or whether the consciousness which most men have that their old university has undergone strange changes in the years since they left it—be the deterring cause, we cannot undertake to say: but the fact remains. Mr. Adams's book is, to adopt a subtle distinction, rather a tale than a novel; and he has emulated neither *Verdant Green* nor *Tom Brown*. Indeed, if we must say the truth, *Willon of Cuthbert's* is rather a colourless presentment; and we should doubt whether it will appeal much more vividly to Oxford men of five-and-thirty years' standing than to Oxford men of fifteen. The date enables the author to bring in the great seven-oared race and certain other things of historical interest; and he gives us a few of the immemorial stories with which King Alfred, no doubt, endowed the university at the same time as he founded it. But we cannot say much more for him.

*Nicholas Minturn* is a very American book, and at the same time a good one. Dr. Holland seems quite prepared for the event of his hero's philanthropic exertions finding little favour in his critics' eyes, even in his own country—much more, therefore, abroad. Certainly there is not wanting a flavour of Utopia; but there are worse places than Utopia, both in the world and out of it. Nicholas himself is decidedly good. The placid way in which he allows himself to be shipped off to Europe, with no distinct ideas on the subject of his voyage, except that at some time or other all the bores of his acquaintance have requested him to "think of them" at some noted point of European scenery, is a good imagination; and his activity, when he has discovered his vocation of philanthropist, is good too. His inevitable comic friend pleases us much less; and the friend's beloved, a young woman of some merit, suffers from the singularly ungraceful American habit of making the foibles of a mother a foil to set off the daughter. We could also well have spared the pious swindler, who in no degree justifies his painful similarity to many other pious swindlers, and whose suicide gives Dr. Holland the opportunity of writing some pages of folly



almost incredible when we compare them with the rest of the volume; but, notwithstanding these serious set-offs, there is a substantial balance of interest and merit in the book.

A *Great Emergency* and its fellow-stories need to be praised with no such allowance. Never since *Melchior's Dream* showed that its author was a bright example of a *filia diserta matre disertior* has Mrs. Ewing published a more charming volume of stories, and that is saying a very great deal. From the first to the last the book overflows with the strange knowledge of child nature which so rarely survives childhood, and moreover with inexhaustible quiet humour which is never anything but innocent and well-bred, never priggish, and never clumsy. "Our Field" is perfect of its kind, and "Madam Liberality," though more common-place, only suffers from comparison with better work. But the longer tales are the best. "A Very Ill-tempered Family" is the best example of an avowedly religious and not goody history that we have read for a long time. But the "Great Emergency" itself is our favourite. A child's autobiography is not an easy thing to write successfully, and here we have a complete success. The schoolboy yarns in particular are admirable. The captain's seven parrots, who "were much attached to him, but quarrelled among themselves, and swore at each other in seven dialects of the West Coast of Africa;" the lion which guarded Dartmouth harbour with a key tied round his neck by a seagreen ribbon, the ribbon being renewed every Sunday, and many other charming things, are not to be forgotten by any person of taste.

We are sorry to say that we have striven altogether in vain to take some small interest in *Disappeared from her Home*. We have failed utterly, and though we hope it is our own fault we are at the same time quite sure that it is not. She disappeared from her home chiefly because she had a mother. Then the mother disappeared in her turn, and was drowned, and everybody made a great many mistakes. She had a father who married somebody else while her mother was alive—a thing which fathers clearly should not do. She had two lovers who talked like books and tried to find her. But it was too much for the feelings of one of them, and instead of finding her he married another young woman at Dublin. Lord Hardcastle, the other one, did not marry a young woman at Dublin, but accomplished his vow as all men, lords and others, should do. So everybody was happy, except those who had been drowned or otherwise disposed of, of whom there were several.

We do not like to look gift-horses in the mouth, and we cannot deny that it is good of Miss Spencer to inform us in a note that Tiflis is the capital of Georgia. But when she further proceeds to inform us that "samovar" means a lady's-maid we become perturbed in mind. Perhaps she is right, but certainly travellers in Russia and special correspondents by the score have given us to understand that "samovar" meant a tea-kettle. Now, it appears to stand to reason that a tea-kettle and a lady's-maid can

hardly be the same thing or be expressed by the same word. However, we put this modestly, as becomes persons who "have" no Russian or Moldavian either. The story which Miss Spencer has englished is rather a striking one in some respects. The translator confesses to having amplified it somewhat, and we should rather like to know how far the amplification has gone. It would obviously be the better for a little de-amplification, since, though striking, it is but slight. A relative of a Moldavian family of immemorial antiquity but sinister fame comes to stay at their castle, where he is hospitably received. He finds there a young French lady whom his cousin, Prince Demetrius Nibesco, is to marry. The *suite*, which is very simple, may be guessed. The princess-mother is the central figure, and she is finely drawn. Her notion that on stormy nights the evil thoughts of the dead who lie by scores in the castle vaults are wafted about the house, seeking into whose heart they may enter, has a sort of wild grandeur about it, and her subsequent attempted crime comes in well. But—whether it is owing to the author's or the translator's fault we can hardly say—the story does not make the most of itself.

GEORGE SAINTSBURY.

#### CURRENT LITERATURE.

*Baudissin's Italiänisches Theater.* (Leipzig.) *The Folk Tales of Bengal.* By Mother Goose (in the *Bengal Magazine*, edited by the Rev. Lal Behari Day, July, 1876). Count Wolf Baudissin, the translator of a volume of Italian plays just published at Leipzig under the title of *Italiänisches Theater*, is (we should hardly believe it) the same Count Baudissin whose translation of Shakspeare's plays, as revised and published by Tieck, laid the foundation of Shakspeare's popularity in Germany more than half a century ago. It would be difficult to name any work that has produced a more powerful and a more lasting effect on the literature, nay, on the national taste of Germany than that classical translation of Shakspeare; and though there have been other German translations published from time to time, the original translation, made under the auspices of Schlegel and Tieck, still holds its own against powerful competitors. Count Baudissin, who can look back on nearly a century of literary activity, seems to bear the same charmed life as his translation of Shakspeare's plays. He was born in 1789, but he still collects around him in the old capital of Saxony the best and most delightful society. He takes a lively interest in all that is above the ordinary level of excellence in literature, art and science, and he seems to have inherited from Humboldt the secret of the real youth of old age, never to think oneself too old to learn a new truth or to unlearn an old error. The first volume of his *Italiänisches Theater* contains translations of Gozzi, Goldoni, Gherardi del Testa, and Giovanni Giraud. A hundred years ago these names had a world-wide celebrity. At present Goldoni's name is the only one which still retains a popular sound. Of the works of Gozzi, Goldoni's great rival, it was impossible, as Count Baudissin informs us, to find a single copy at any bookseller's in Genoa, Florence, or even at Venice, where the last edition of his collected works, in ten volumes, had been published in 1792.

"Gozzi," says his translator, "seems to me so important, because in the middle of the eighteenth century, when no one cared for popular poetry, when Voltaire could dare to ridicule with impudent ribaldry the most beautiful episode of French history, when mediæval architecture had no admirers, and the names of both Shakspeare and Rafael were almost forgotten, he had the courage to collect the rich

materials contained in old popular stories, and to give them a new life on the stage."

The literary interest of these plays is much greater than would be expected. Gozzi's *Turandot* was prepared for the German stage by Schiller, and more recently Paul Heyse has revived another play of Gozzi's, *The Fortunate Beggar*. But, apart from their intrinsic value, these plays of Gozzi are important as bearing evidence to the extraordinary vitality of the old stories on which they are founded. The first of Gozzi's plays translated by Count Baudissin is called *The Stag*. This is from beginning to end the Indian story first told of King Nanda, the contemporary of Alexander the Great, and repeated afterwards of Kandragupta, Vikramāditya, and other more or less legendary princes, who are supposed to have possessed the power, by means of a spell, of entering into a dead body and reviving it, and returning afterwards by another spell into their own bodies. The plot of the story is formed by some other person entering into the untenanted body before the rightful owner had time to return to it, or by burning the empty body, so as to render the return of its original inmate impossible. This story appears in various shapes, in the latest text of the *Panwatantra*, in the *Tales of the Parrot* (*Sukasaptati* and *Tutinameh*), in the *Tales of the Forty Viziers*, in the *Thousand and One Nights*, &c. It reached Gozzi probably through an Italian translation, published at Venice in 1557, *Peregrinaggio di tre giovani*. Count Baudissin calls attention to this in his Preface, and he might have added that the other play of Gozzi too, *The Raven*, reached him by the same road. *The Raven* contains the old story which is found in Somadeva's collection of Sanskrit Fables (Book vi.) and elsewhere. It takes many various forms, but the kernel is always the same. While travelling with a young prince, his friend or Minister hears the conversation of some birds foretelling certain misfortunes which are to befall the prince, at the same time threatening still greater misfortunes to him who should inform the prince of his impending fate. Thereupon the friend saves the prince from all these dangers, but not without incurring his displeasure, because unable to explain his strange conduct in guarding him. When found at last in the bedchamber of the princess, where the faithful friend had hidden himself to protect the prince from a dragon, he is condemned to death. Unable to bear the unjust suspicions of the prince, he at last reveals the secret, and while so doing is gradually changed into a stone image. He is restored, however, to life by some great act of devotion, the queen either killing herself or sacrificing her first child to save their trusty friend. The variations of this story are manifold; and, strange to say, while we have this old fable brought on the Italian stage by Gozzi in the last century, and revived in the present translation by Count Baudissin, a recent number of a Bengal journal, the *Bengal Magazine*, brings us the same story as gathered from the mouths of old people by a well-known native writer, the Rev. Lal Behari Day. Mr. Day had given some curious ghost-stories in his famous *Govinda Samanta*; or, *The Life of a Bengal Raiyat*. An English civilian, Mr. Temple, to whom we owe the best information we possess as yet of the Andaman language, urged Mr. Day to gather together some *bona fide* old-wives' tales, which no Englishman could possibly do with the same success, and the result has been that the very first story which Mr. Day has published, under the title of "Phakir Chand," is, in all its essential details, our old friend *The Raven*. Thus, while English plays are being acted at Calcutta, Indian fables have found their way to the stages of Italy and Germany; and there are some even of Shakspeare's plays which have been proved to derive their origin, through many circuitous channels, from the same Eastern source which supplied the subjects of Gozzi's comedies.

*Annals of North America.* By Edward Howland. (Sampson Low and Co.) A very con-

venient volume for reference in regard to the salient points in American history. It might more properly be called a Dictionary of American Dates, for there is scarcely any historical fact of importance that is not mentioned; and the addition of the precise date of its occurrence gives it a special value. The volume commences with the discovery of land by Columbus, October 12, 1492, and ends with the inauguration of President Hayes, March 5, 1877. Between these two dates many thousands of occurrences are noted, generally very briefly, and usually with notes which throw light upon the subject-matter, and references by which a more detailed account may be obtained. Of course, in order to swell the volume to what was deemed a necessary magnitude, many subjects are introduced which possess interest for Americans only, and some which it is difficult to conceive can possibly be interesting to anybody. It provokes a smile when one is informed that, in 1798, "a patent for a machine for making horn combs was granted to Isaac Tryon, of Connecticut," and this without any further explanation about Isaac Tryon, or the horn combs, or the American system of patents. On the other hand, such dates as those of the first book printed on the American continent, of the earliest coinage, of the first manufacture of salt, of the planting of the first vineyard, of the first introduction of cattle into New England, of the establishment of the first free school, and of the adoption of the national flag, with the editor's succinct commentaries upon them, will prove acceptable and useful to all historical students, and especially to journalists and others who have to deal with American history. As no work of this sort would be deemed complete without them, an Appendix reproduces the eternal Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States, with which every schoolboy ought by this time to be familiar. A copious index of names and subjects renders the volume easy to consult, while its chronological arrangement enables one to refer instantly to any particular period desired.

*Voltaire.* By Colonel Hamley. [Foreign Classics for English Readers, edited by Mrs. Oliphant.] (Edinburgh and London: William Blackwood and Sons.) To convey to readers whose literary furniture is so incomplete that they are without a sound knowledge of the French tongue any true idea of a genius and nature so rich and so complicated as that of Voltaire is a difficult task. Colonel Hamley has spent a great deal of labour and time on the subject; his facts and citations are accurate; his translations (wholly free from any pretension to a literary character) are fairly correct; it rouses, therefore, a feeling of wonder that he should have been able to dwell so long upon his author without getting beyond the merest external acquaintance. The unfortunate consequence of this is that no trivial gossip concerning Voltaire's weaknesses and foibles is suffered to drop, while the story of the Calas and the Sirven is dismissed in a single page. Another point which must not be overlooked is the offensive and familiar manner in which the story of M<sup>me</sup>. du Châtelet is told. After which it need hardly be said that Colonel Hamley has not succeeded in giving to his readers that accurate conception of the position of Voltaire, and that true appreciation of the character of his influence on his time and nation, of which he himself seems to be destitute.

*The Place of Iceland in the History of European Institutions;* being the Lothian Prize Essay, 1877. By C. A. Vansittart Conybeare, B.A. (Oxford and London: James Parker and Co.) The greater part of Mr. Conybeare's essay is occupied by an account of the early history and institutions of Iceland, based mainly on Maurer and Dasent, but fortified by references to the original authorities. This account is succinct, readable, and accurate; but the title of the essay would have suggested a more comparative treatment of the subject than that adopted, and the allotment

of somewhat greater space to tracing the relationships of affinity or resemblance between Icelandic institutions and those of other European States. The inventiveness displayed in the Icelandic polity, its freedom from foreign, and especially Roman, influences, and the exceptional nature of some of its peculiarities—such as the absence of any village or municipal organisation—would have given great interest to such a comparison, which, however, would have required a greater range of historical knowledge than could be reasonably expected of a prize essayist. Towards the end of his book the author appears to become aware that it is not so much with Iceland alone as with Iceland in its relation to other States that he has to deal, and accordingly he reviews at some length the differences between what he calls Icelandic feudalism and that of the continent of Europe. He has some pertinent remarks on this subject; but with reference to his nomenclature we are inclined to agree with those who think that the term "feudalism" is not accurately applied to any system from which the heaven of Roman law is entirely absent, and to hold that a chapter on Icelandic feudalism ought to be of the same length and character as a chapter on Icelandic snakes. The essay as a whole, though not conspicuous for brilliancy or originality, bears marks of independent research and power of mastering a difficult subject, and is quite worthy of publication.

#### NOTES AND NEWS.

M. RENAN'S Report to the Asiatic Society of Paris has a special interest this year, if the rumour be correct that he does not mean to accept re-election to the secretaryship. Among the works which receive a special eulogium from his graceful pen are M. James Darmesteter's *Ormazd et Ahriman*, in which Mazdean dualism is accounted for by a natural development, and not by a violent rupture between the two branches of the Aryans; M. Bergaigne's thesis on *Les dieux souverains de la religion védique* (a complete repertory of Vedic ideas on the physical and moral world); M. Guyard's *Théorie nouvelle de la métrique arabe*; and the second part of M. de Vogüé's *Syrie centrale*, containing 400 inscriptions from Safa. On the question whether the characters of the most puzzling of these inscriptions are related or not to the Hymyaritic, M. Renan observes: "J'ajourne à un an notre jeune et vaillante école d'épigraphistes. Dans un an, j'en suis sûr, je vous annoncerai que le problème est résolu à la satisfaction de tous." In speaking of the History of the Jewish literature of the Middle Ages, which has been in preparation for more than ten years, M. Renan mentions that the assistance of Dr. Neubauer, who has undertaken extensive researches in the European libraries for this purpose, has been indispensable for the collection of the historical and philological material.

MESSRS. WILLIAMS AND NORGATE have brought out the first part of *Psalterium Tetraglottum*, containing Psalms i.-l., under the careful editorship of Dr. Nestle, of Tübingen. It contains the four principal ancient versions of the Psalms from a single leading manuscript in each case. We hope to return to this useful work.

ANOTHER proof that Biblical criticism is not a worked-out field has been given by Dr. Neubauer, sub-librarian of the Bodleian Library, who has found, we understand, in a recently-acquired Hebrew MS., a Chaldean text of the Book of Tobit, which is in all probability that from which St. Jerome mainly prepared his version. The peculiarity of the Vulgate translation of this book is that Tobit is spoken of throughout in the third person, while the other extant versions make Tobit speak of himself in chap. i. in the first person. The Chaldean text in the Bodleian is, we believe, fuller than the text in the Vulgate, but it explains many obscure passages in the various versions. The simplicity of its style

precludes the idea of its being a translation from the Greek or Latin, like the late Hebrew versions. It also appears from a statement in the Bodleian MS. that the story of Tobit is not an independent, isolated work, but extracted from the Midrash Rabbah on Genesis, which contains the most ancient Midrashic narratives.

THE REV. T. K. CHEYNE, of Balliol College, Oxford, has prepared a list of the principal Biblical proper names, with special reference to the Old Testament names, which he has attempted to explain on a consistent and strictly philological method. No such attempt has, perhaps, been made since the time of Gesenius; but it is to be regretted that Mr. Cheyne has withheld his philological scaffolding, and that he has resorted to the useful but entirely popular *Teacher's Bible* of Messrs. Eyre and Spottiswoode as a channel of publication.

THE forthcoming verse translation of the lyrics of Runeberg, the great Swedish poet, by Mr. E. Magnusson and Prof. E. H. Palmer, will be dedicated to the King of Sweden by His Majesty's special permission.

MR. SKEAT has brought out a second and revised edition, for the "Clarendon Press Series," of his *Prioresses Tale, Sire Thopas, The Monkes Tale, The Clerkes Tale, The Squieres Tale*, from Chaucer's "Canterbury Tales." He has added some fresh notes, and a list of Chaucer's works, "arranged approximately in chronological order, mainly taken from Mr. Furnivall's 'Trial Forewords to my Parallel-Text edition of Chaucer's Minor Poems' (Chaucer Society, 1871)."

MR. RENDLE and Mr. Furnivall have been taking another look at the old books and documents in St. Saviour's, Southwark, anent the Globe Theatre. They find that a mistake of some importance has been made as to the value of the theatre of 1613, which succeeded Shakspeare's of 1599 when burnt down. Previous writers on the subject had made the timber theatre (or its foundation) worth only 20%; but the certificate of 1634 from which they quote really sets the value of the theatre at "20<sup>per annum</sup>," which is a different thing. In those days everyone had to take the sacrament, and he received a token in witness that he had done so. The giving-out of these tokens was entered in lists kept for the purpose; and thus are preserved the names of managers and actors who lived near Bankside. From the Token-book of 1602 we select a few entries, containing some well-known theatrical names; and though it is possible that the George Chapman and John Fletcher of this list are not the dramatists, yet there is no reasonable doubt that Augustine Philipps, William Kemp, and John Lowen are Shakspeare's fellow-actors, named in the first Folio of his plays:—

"The token booke for the banke sid 1602.

From the Bell . . . . .	vj.
Phillip Henslowe // . . . . .	
Widdowe Newtons Rentes. . . . .	ij.
George Chapman // . . . . .	
Bradshawes Rentes. . . . .	iiij.
Awgustine Philipps // . . . . .	
Bulhead Allys. . . . .	ij.
Humfrye Sherwyn // . . . . .	
Rose Alley. . . . .	j.
John * Midleton / . . . . .	
Addisons Rentes. . . . .	ij.
John Fletcher // . . . . .	
Mr. Clarkes Allys. . . . .	ij.
Ambrose Philipps // . . . . .	
Mr. Langlyes newe Rentes, . . . . .	
neare the play house [Paris Garden]. . . . .	ij.
William Kempe // . . . . .	
From the hyther ende of mayden lane . . . . .	
to the farther. . . . .	ij."
John Lowen // . . . . .	

At their meeting on November 7 the Council of the Camden Society approved of the following publications for the year 1878-9. 1. *Selections from the Hatton Correspondence, extending from*

\* Thomas was the dramatist.



the *Reign of Charles II. to that of William III.*, vol. i.; to be edited by E. M. Thompson. 2. *The Economy of the Fleet*, being an account of the condition of the Fleet Prison in the time of James I.; to be edited by Dr. A. Jessopp. 3. *Debates of the House of Lords in 1624*; to be edited by S. R. Gardiner. The second volume of Wriothlesley's *Chronicle* will be issued almost immediately, and Harpsfield's *History of the Divorce of Henry VIII.* will follow in the course of the year. The Council also thankfully accepted an offer from Mr. Sandford to allow them to publish such of the collection of Locke's letters preserved at Nynhead Court as may be of general interest.

We are glad to see that a second and revised edition of the first two volumes of Mr. Franck Bright's *History of England* has already been called for. It is a book which is probably the best adapted for use as a manual of teaching of any that we have. It would be impossible without minute investigation to discover what amount of improvement the present edition has received. But Mr. Bright's character for care and accuracy is sufficient guarantee that he has spared no pains on the task. No doubt more is still to be done, as, for instance, where (p. 628) in speaking of the attempts of Charles I. to obtain a revenue after the dissolution of 1629, he says that "he at first proceeded on the assumption that the subsidy promised, but not completed, was fairly his. It was raised with the greatest severity throughout the country." In point of fact there is not one word of truth in this statement. There was no promise of any subsidy on the part of the Parliament, no levy of it on the part of Charles.

MR. SKEAT's edition of the four Parallel-Text Anglo-Saxon and Early English versions of the Gospel of St. John, for the Delegates of the Pitt Press, Cambridge, has reached its sixteenth chapter.

MR. HENRY P. STOKES, who won the Harness Prize at Cambridge this year for the best essay "On the Chronological Order of Shakspeare's Plays," is now printing the essay for publication, as by the conditions of the competition he is obliged to do. He quotes the tables of the specialties of Shakspeare's metre in the New Shakspeare's Society's *Transactions* of 1874.

ON the night of the 1st inst. a meeting was held at Christiania to congratulate Björnsterne Björnson on his return to that city after a long absence. The occasion was distinguished from ordinary meetings of this kind by the singularly striking and valuable address given by the poet in reply, which *Morgenbladet* prints in full. Björnson has never given so public an explanation of his views. He spoke of the irritation which had been caused by his dramas, *Redaktören*, which was directed against the Conservative press, and *Kongen*, which was directed against the monarchy. His defence is deeply interesting, and proves the sincerity of his intention; but it fails to account for the deplorable decadence in style which his later works display. We could forgive eccentricity of opinion more easily than we can overlook decay in art and workmanship. It is evident that the poet has, for the time being, become desperately *doctrinaire*; our hope must be that time will restore his early exquisite taste and lyrical skill.

It is proposed to publish this winter a collected edition of the works of Jörgen Moe, Bishop of Christiansand. We shall warmly welcome in a united form the writings of one of the most delicately original of Norse poets, and Asbjörnsen's coadjutor in the famous work of collecting Norwegian Folklore.

THE November number of *Fors* is occupied mainly with an examination of the music of the Greeks as a synonym of all their highest culture, and a comparison between their ideal of life and the *a-musements* of Englishmen—a word which

is evidently connected with the *amusia* of the Hellenes. The authority of Sir Walter Scott for writing without plan or purpose is adduced as a defence of the rambling discursiveness of Mr. Ruskin himself. The Appendix contains a very cursory notice of the affairs of the master and the Company, and a very interesting account of Talbot village, near Bournemouth, which we are told, however, must not necessarily be mistaken for a piece of St. George's work.

THE *Revue Historique* for November has a lively article by M. Rocquain on the refusal of the Sacraments in France, in 1752-54, to those who would not accept the provisions of the Bull *Unigenitus*, which was professedly directed against Jansenism, but was really an assertion of the principles of Ultramontanism. M. Rocquain traces the action of the *Parlement* and the excitement of the people; and this he does in some detail for the purpose of showing that the French Revolution was not due entirely to the *philosophes*, but that the cry of revolution was first raised on a religious question. The article ends with some interesting speculations on the probable course of the Revolution if it had broken out in 1754 instead of 1789. There is an article by M. Sorel on the Peace of Basel in 1795, which is founded on documents in the National Archives at Paris, and traces in detail the diplomatic movements which led to the peace. The series of letters of the Cardinal d'Armagnac from 1574 to 1585 is continued, as also the letters of Sismondi from Paris, May-July, 1815.

Was it the custom for women to serve as soldiers in the Royal army during the great rebellion? Notwithstanding such doubtful cases as those of the Countess of Derby and Lady Bances, we imagine most people would answer without hesitation, No. Yet there is one undoubted example of a lady holding a commission to command a troop of horse. Among the Montrose papers preserved at Buchanan Castle is the deposition of a certain Major John Erskine, who says that sometime in or before 1644, "one Mistres Persone, who was a daughter of the earl of Carnwath, had charge of a troop and had a commission from the Earl of Newcastle for levying that troop." The evidence of a Major Leslie taken about the same time confirms this. He tells us that Mrs. Persone—or, as he calls her, Peirson—"always rode at the head of a troop." These papers are calendared in the *Second Report of the Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts*, p. 174.

We learn from a Lisbon contemporary that the publication of a "Universal Portuguese Dictionary" will be commenced on January 1. The work will contain numerous engravings, and will be completed in three quarto volumes. Besides the usual matter, this new encyclopædia will furnish explanations of terms used in the dialects spoken in the Portuguese possessions abroad, such as Bunda or Angolense, the Concani Creole of Cape Verde, &c., and in the Tupi, Guarany, and other dialects of Brazil.

THE Ballad Society has just sent out to its members Parts 2 and 3 of Mr. Ebsworth's fully annotated edition of old Bagford's Collection of Ballads in the British Museum, with copies of the original woodcuts, and a few fresh ones by Mr. Ebsworth. These two parts complete the second volume of the original collection, excluding those in the Roxburghe volumes, which will appear in Mr. Wm. Chappell's edition for the Society. In Mr. Ebsworth's Introductions and Notes, which show extraordinary research and care, he has given copies of some three-and-thirty other ballads that illustrate his widely-differing subjects; and he has added a few pleasant pages in verse and prose to his fellow ballad-readers, calling on them for due appreciation of his wares.

In the *Revista Contemporanea* for September 30 P. Estasen gives a sympathetic notice of the life and writings of Walter Bagehot; and N. Diaz de

Benjumea in an ingenious essay attempts to prove that the expression *se engendró en una cárcel*, in the *Prologo* to *Don Quijote*, must not be taken literally, as is usually done, but metaphorically, like the word "prison" in *Hamlet*, act ii., sc. 2. The number for October 15 contains an eloquent monograph on Cologne Cathedral, by Juan Fastenrath, à propos of the fact that the architects of the Cathedrals of Leon, Burgos, and Segovia were masters from the workshops of Cologne. Estasen and Gener, in separate articles, direct attention to the value of recent historical publications in Catalonia, especially to the *Historia crítica, civil y eclesiástica de Cataluña*, by A. de Bofarull y Broca, and to *Las Cortes Catalanas*, by Coreleu and Pella. The minor notices by Revilla in these numbers should not be overlooked.

THE Curators of the Bodleian Library at Oxford have printed the letter addressed to them by Mr. C. H. Roberts, Fellow of All Souls' College, in which that gentleman reiterates with praiseworthy importunity the scheme that his own college with its revenue of 20,000*l.* a year should be annexed to the Bodleian. The scheme is a grand one, and carefully thought out, but it may be doubted whether its accomplishment is not beyond the capacity of the present timid generation. However, boundless possibilities of reform lie hidden in the breasts of the University Commissioners who are now engaged in taking evidence at Oxford.

#### FOREIGN REVIEWS OF ENGLISH BOOKS.

- BISSET, A. History of the Struggle for Parliamentary Government. *Revue Historique*, November. By A. Stern.  
CORRIËRY, E. M. The Struggle against Absolute Monarchy. *Revue Historique*, November. By A. Stern.  
DARWIN, CHARLES. The Different Forms of Flowers on Plants of the same Species. *Jenener Literaturzeitung*, November 10. By H. Müller.  
LEGGE, J. Confucianism in Relation to Christianity. *Revue Critique*, October 20. By H. Cordier.

#### NOTES OF TRAVEL.

UNDER the title of *Nyassa: a Journal of Adventures whilst Exploring Lake Nyassa, Central Africa, and Establishing the Settlement of "Livingstonia"* (Murray), Mr. E. D. Young, R.N., has newly published the very interesting story of his successful journey at the head of the party sent by the Scottish Churches to found the Industrial Mission which was chosen as the most fitting form of memorial to the greatest of African Missionaries. The narrative, which has been revised by the Rev. Horace Waller, is written with much dry humour, and describes graphically the adventures of the portage of the Shiré cataracts, the launching-out of the first steam vessel that had ever floated on an African Lake, and the fright of the Arab slave-traders at the unexpected apparition. The discovery of the grand range of mountains which overhangs the north-eastern margin of the Nyassa, the choice of the station, and the settlement of "Livingstonia" on the breezy promontory of Cape Maclear, are also well told. The other leading points of the book are the disclosures it makes of the internal slave-traffic carried on by the Portuguese convicts, not towards the coast but inward, from the weaker tribes of the east to the more warlike peoples of the interior; its strong appeal for the intervention of British power on these inland waters of Africa; and its sensible arguments in favour of the introduction of legitimate commerce hand-in-hand with Christianity among the tribes of Central Africa.

THE latest part of *L'Exploration* is chiefly occupied with a valuable account of the geography, products and population of the Corea, by M. Ch. Dallet, a resident French missionary. A detailed map accompanies the paper.

In a communication to the *Kölnische Zeitung* dated from Cairo on October 20, Dr. G. Schweinfurth describes a new German project for the

scientific exploration of the Eastern Sahara. After referring to the purely scientific character of the work that has hitherto been done by Germany in Africa and the cosmopolitan spirit in which it has been undertaken, he puts the question which is now beginning to be asked in the Empire whenever African exploration is discussed—Shall we always labour only for others? He then directs attention to the northern border-lands of Africa, the politically-neutral Sahara, as the true field for German abstract science to work upon. The labours of Barth, Nachtigal, Von Bary and Rohlf in this region are then recalled, especially the later journeys of the last-named traveller, in company with Profs. Jordan, Zittel and Ascherson, in the Libyan desert. The extraordinary ability of Rohlf as the leader of an independent expedition through the desert showed itself most brilliantly in his Libyan expedition, so that it can be only a matter of satisfaction to the geographical world to know that this traveller is preparing plans for new explorations of the Eastern Sahara, where there is still a *terra incognita* as extensive as Germany and Austria together. Several scientific men of the first rank purpose to take part in this enterprise, among whom Prof. Zittel, of the University of Munich, who has done so much for African geology, will again be found. As the base of operations Tripoli has been selected, since there is now no other harbour along the coast of Cyrenaica which is in regular communication with Europe; one of the northern oases, perhaps that of Aujila, will be taken as a central point for the organisation of the caravan, which will be directed southward towards the great mysterious oasis groups of Wajanga, Kufarah, &c., which have long been known by report, but which have never been reached by Europeans.

A NEW French African expedition is announced in the *Figaro* of the 6th inst. It has been planned by M. Duveyrier, the object being to cross equatorial Africa by going up the Niger, on the west side, with a view to arriving at the Indian Ocean through the central unknown region. The Comte de Semellé, a lieutenant of the French army, who has passed almost the whole of his life in Africa, will lead the expedition, taking with him a strong escort of old Algerian soldiers.

MR. GEORGE E. EMERY, of Lynn, Massachusetts, has just reproduced in facsimile, by the photo-electrotype process, a cartographical curiosity which possesses peculiar interest at the present time. It is entitled a "Map of the North Sea and Lands," delineated upon a chart in the fourteenth century by Antonio Zeno, and was printed at Venice in 1558 to accompany the *Narrative of the Northern Voyages* of the brothers Nicolo and Antonio Zeno to Iceland, Greenland, Spitzbergen, and Franz Joseph Land, in 1380 and after. In a companion sheet Mr. Emery gives the body of this map, exhibiting an original identification of Frisland, Islanda, Crolandia, Podanda, Monaco, Icaria, Neome, Grislada, and the Seven Islands (Mimant, &c.), also the Islands of the Zeno narrative, and the lost colony of East Greenland.

HERR OTTO SCHÜTTE, who is about to undertake some explorations on behalf of the German African Association, has arrived at Lisbon on his way to Loanda.

M. LÉON METCHNIKOFF will shortly publish at Geneva a work entitled *L'Empire Japonais*. It will furnish a complete description of Japan and her colonies, and will be comprised in four parts, which will treat of "Le pays," "Le peuple," "L'histoire," and "Actualités." It will be accompanied by over twenty plates printed in colours, engravings, vignettes, &c.

MR. FREDK. JEPPE contemplates the publication of a pamphlet on the geography of the Transvaal, to accompany a new edition of his map of the territory, to which we referred last February.

THE Hydrographic Office at Washington has just issued a volume entitled *Coasts and Ports of*

*the Gulf of Lyons and Gulf of Genoa*, by Lieut.-Commander H. H. Gorringe, U. S. N., assisted by Lieut. Seaton Schroeder. This work, which treats of the coast from Cape Creux to Piombino Headland, will eventually be incorporated in the second part of the *Coasts and Islands of the Mediterranean Sea*. The information contained in it is the result of personal observation, the coast and ports described having been visited by the U.S.S. *Gettysburg*.

A NEW weekly geographical periodical has recently been started at Lyons under the title of *Revue Lyonnaise de Géographie*. The current number is chiefly occupied with short papers relating to Italy and Lyons, and a Report of the proceedings of the local Geographical Society.

THE just-issued *Bollettino* of the Italian Geographical Society contains, among other matter, a description by M. Schouw-Santvoort of his journey across the island of Sumatra in March and April of the present year, and a sketch-map showing the route taken by Carlo Piaggia in 1876 from Dufé to Lake Capechi.

LIEUTENANT WYSE, of the French navy, was to leave for Panama on November 7 in order to undertake fresh investigations in the Isthmus of Darien on behalf of the Comité du Canal Inter-oceanique.

It is said that application is to be made to the United States Congress this session for a grant of 60,000 dols. for the survey of a line of railway from Liberia to the interior of Africa. The object of this scheme is said to be the opening of the Soudan to civilisation and commerce.

#### NEW WORKS BY BISHOP CALLAWAY.

BISHOP CALLAWAY writes:—

"I have had for some time Part IV. of my work on Zulu *Medical Magic* nearly ready for the press; also a second volume of the *Kafir Nursery Tales* quite ready. In additional notes to Vol. I., intended to be printed with this second volume, I discuss Dr. Bleek's view on the part played by beasts in popular legends. He attempts to found a grammatical distinction on it, and divides languages into sex-denoting and non-sex-denoting, supposing that the latter only represent beasts as talking, &c. My own opinion is that the distinction and the foundation on which it is supposed to rest are both fallacies, and cannot in any way be sustained. My collection of Zulu Folklore alone proves that the Bantu languages do represent animals as talking and acting like human beings, just as the languages of other peoples represent them. I do not believe that the Kafir races have borrowed any of the legends or popular tales from the Hottentots or Bushmen. The two sets of legends, taking Dr. Bleek's published Bushman tales as a type, are very different in their character. The Zulu tales are much more like the Arabian, and it is quite possible, like those published by Bishop Steer, are largely indebted to the communications with Arab traders; but if indebted at times for subjects, they have been entirely Kafirised in the mode of telling. They are more Kafir than Arabic; and I have very great doubts whether the generality of Dr. Bleek's Hottentot tales are of Hottentot origin—I believe that most are due to the Dutch. The second volume alluded to above is much more interesting than the first. In it I have placed many fragments relating to Uhlakanyana and Usibuluni, from which it appears that what has been printed, or indeed collected, are but mere fragments of some large tale, in which, if restored, Uhlakanyana would figure as a Dwarf possessed of magical powers, a servant or subject of Usibuluni, the Chief Knight of a Round Table. The fragments are to me extremely interesting, and are doubtless of great antiquity. Also, in this second volume I find a magical use of medicines appearing for the first time, intimating probably tales of a more recent date. There is, too, a tale curiously like 'Mother Holt' of Grimm's collection, but so widely different in detail that it is not easy to think they have any relation to one another beyond that which arises from there being men thinking alike everywhere. Another curious thing in these tales is several instances of resurrection after cremation; and the snake enters into

them very much as the cobra into Indian tales. During the last two or three years my duties have led me among other tribes, and it has interested me much to find similar tales of the Creation existing everywhere with curious modifications; and also nursery tales of a different character, and even mere local modifications of these tales, among the Zulus. But the greater part of my notes refer to the notion the Kafirs originally had of Creation and Deity. Such notions are universal, and if rightly approached it is easy to touch the sense of divinity and all that that conveys among the most degraded of those I have met with. One very interesting discovery was that of the name Ukqamata for the Creator among a tribe of frontier Kafirs. It is a name almost universally unknown to white men, and entirely so to white missionaries. What the natives said of this Being was more remarkable, more like 'theology,' than anything I have met with. And what was especially interesting is that my informants told me it was their tribal name for Utizo before they came into contact with the Hottentots, when they gave it up for the Hottentot word Utizo. Whether this is merely the echo of missionary teaching, or a fact, I cannot say. But it is clear that the Kafirs have an impression that they were much influenced by contact with the Hottentots, though in other things they express a great contempt for them. It is likewise worth noting that this word has also a click in it as well as Utizo; and it is supposed that the Kafirs owe their clicks to the Hottentots. It is possible this notion has also been too hastily adopted.—I was much interested in examining some drawings made from those in Bushman caves; among them were some amusing pictures of contests between the pigmy Bushmen and the gigantic Kafirs, the latter being represented always as disproportioned, stupid giants, and getting the worst of it, like the giants in Jack the Giant-Killer tales. But what interested me more was the existence of what no doubt are mystical symbols of an old religion—a rayed sun, a crescent, a sun and crescent in conjunction, a cup in a circle, and an eight-rayed circle. There is nothing of this kind among the Kafir races. There remains very much to be done to clear up many questions of great interest by comparing languages and legends. I think it is a pity that these collections of mine should remain unprinted during my life. They are not likely to be taken up by anyone else."

Unprinted, however, they must be, unless persons interested contribute towards their publication. Is it too much to hope that lovers of folklore and language and students of religion will assist in so valuable a work?

#### A PRINTED CATALOGUE OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

MR. W. E. A. AXON read a paper at a recent meeting of the Manchester Literary Club "On a Printed Catalogue of the British Museum," in which this important question was very practically discussed. Mr. Winter Jones stated at the Conference of Librarians that the printing of the Catalogue in proper order would take twenty-five or thirty years, "and by that time 300,000 or 400,000 more titles would have accumulated;" but Mr. Axon points to the evident truth that the time occupied must depend upon the number of printers employed upon the job. It is really a mere question of statistics, and a practical printer could calculate in a few hours from the manuscript catalogue how much space it would occupy in print. If we take the three million titles mentioned by Mr. Jones as the basis of calculation, we should require 105 quarto volumes in double columns, such as the "Catalogue of Scientific Papers" of the Royal Society, to contain them. These would cost about 1,000*l.* per volume, so that Mr. Bullen's guess that the printing would come to about 100,000*l.* is probably very near the mark. The question therefore to be decided by the British public is whether such a Catalogue is worth the expense. We think with Mr. Axon that it is, for it would give us, what does not at present exist, a list of something like a proportion of all existing printed books. It is futile to say that the Catalogue would be incomplete by the time it was finished, because this argument might be used against any work whatever. The point



now arises whether Mr. Axon's proposal is the best possible one under the circumstances. The existing Catalogue, which is arranged in alphabetical order, is nearly completed. This might be prepared and carried through the press rapidly if different portions of the alphabet were given out to different printing-offices; but the difficulty attending Mr. Axon's scheme is that the Catalogue which he proposes to print does not really exist in the required form, and would need much skilled labour to be devoted to it before it could be sent to press. He would print the Catalogue slips as arranged according to the shelves, and "the printer would quickly reduce them to more manageable proportions than they at present display." There can be no doubt respecting the great utility of the publication of the Catalogue of the British Museum Library, arranged according to classes, to be sold in separate volumes as here proposed; but does not Mr. Axon underrate the work that must be performed before these Catalogues are ready for press? If a large sum of public money is paid for printing, the work produced must be done well, and no literary work should be looked for from the printer. In the first place, as Mr. Axon writes, "the Grenville Collection and the King's Library have an independent existence, and do not fall within the general classification. The first step towards the utilisation of these classified titles would be to incorporate with them the titles of all the books in collections now kept distinct." Then the slips will need much re-arrangement, because the exigencies of the shelves cause the arrangement to be less minute than can be adopted on paper. Moreover, the titles themselves, being written for an Authors' Catalogue, will need revision and re-adjustment to suit the arrangement of subjects. All this must take a considerable amount of time. An estimate of the total number of slips, of the time needed for the preparation of the Class Catalogue, and the cost of printing the Alphabetical and the Classed Catalogues, should be called for from the authorities of the British Museum, and then we should have material upon which to base a final opinion.

## MAGAZINES AND REVIEWS.

THE *Cornhill Magazine* is only slightly behind the publishers in bringing "Erema" to its finish, the scene of which, as of its opening, is laid across the Atlantic. The other novel, "For Percival," would please better if its canvas were less crowded; and, in truth, "A Polish Priest's Story: the Czar's Clemency" strikes us as displaying, in little, a higher mastery of the art of story-telling. Mr. Alfred Austin gives a taste of his unquestioned poetical vein in "The Last Redoubt," an episode in the war between Russ and Turk. But the literary article *par excellence* of this number is Mr. J. A. Symonds' "Some Sonnets of Campanella," in which a sketch is given of the Dominican monk of the sixteenth century, who from his Neapolitan dungeon—a poet and a philosopher in one—poured forth philosophy in rhyme, and science in sonnets, described by the essayist as "plebeian saws, salient images, dry sentences of metaphysical speculation, logical summaries, and splendid tirades hurled together—half crude and cindery *scoriae*, half molten metal and resplendent ore—from the volcano of his passionate mind." It would be easy to quote, had we space, some half-dozen stanzas here and there, which would show both the merit of the original and its good luck in having fallen into appreciative hands. Two other semi-scientific papers are, an "Aesthetic Analysis of an Obelisk," and "A Mighty Seawave."

In *Fraser's Magazine* Dr. Carpenter exposes, in his "Psychological Curiosities of Spiritualism," a mischievous epidemic delusion, which he brands as comparable with the witchcraft epidemic of the seventeenth century; while he anticipates the forthcoming new edition of his lectures with criticisms of Mr. Wallace and Mr. Crookes, Mr.

Home and Mrs. Guppy Volckmar, and their spiritualistic demonstrations. "Patricius Walker" is hardly at his topographical best in "Rambles in Devon and Cornwall," though he might have been, had he postponed statistics and social evils of Plymouth, Stonehouse and Devonport, to Penzance, the Land's End and Zennor parish, for which wild yet winsome region his space fails him. For a mental country-run commend us rather (especially in our arm-chair) to "Three Weeks with the Hop-pickers," an insight into the hop-gardens about Sutton Valence at the time of their periodical invasion by the living dregs of London, which are described here with a realism comparable with that displayed in Mr. Greenwood's famous Night in a Workhouse. "An Old Story Now" is the name of A. K. H. B.'s monthly gossip, a reminiscence, *pro hac vice*, of a long-ago 1st of October, and his first leaving a Scotch home on that day for an English public school. Though there is nothing very tangible in it, this paper will bind well with others in a series which—especially as the author saw the wisdom of a temporary intermission some time back—is as welcome as ever to the readers of *Fraser*. The "Studies in Russian Literature" acquaint us with the genial poet Pushkin, his youth, his *chefs d'œuvre* in poetry, and his untimely death. Prof. Newman puts forth a qualified feeler in reform of English orthography.

WITH *Blackwood's* bill of fare he who would quarrel would argue himself of a very capacious stomach, though it cannot be denied that most of its dishes have a war flavour and seasoning. It is natural to look, not in vain, for a new instalment of the "Storm in the East," and to find, not uncommonly, another kindred Russo-phobian paper "On the Political Results of the War." But besides these, the November programme includes "A Recent Visit to Montenegro and its Capital," Cettinge; which latter is described as "more like a poor Scotch or Irish village than the capital of a country, having but one street, and a single hotel, not of the cleanest, though supported by princely subvention." In general the description of the Montenegrins given here accords with Mr. Gladstone's, *minus* the high colouring; and though it seems undeniable that the men of the country lay all their heaviest burdens upon their women, it does not seem that the latter weep over a lot to which they regard themselves as born. And the men, if lazy, are not only a brave, but a sober and honest people. "Rides through Asia" brings us even nearer the war-track in the adventurous company of Captain Fred Burnaby and Captain Cunliffe Marsh; and though we change the *venue* in following the career of the "Anglo-Indian Soldier and Novelist," Colonel Meadows Taylor, through an appreciative and comprehensive narrative, it is difficult to dissociate F. H. D.'s twelve classical sonnets on Demosthenes from a design of historic parallelism, in which Philip matches with Alexander of Russia, and Athens stands for another State of modern days in which one party would fain assist the work of "Philip's Holy Sword," and the other struggles, half in vain, against subserviency to "a grim power in the north." In the increasing interest of the character-drawing of "Mine is Thine," we see more and more surely the handiwork of the author of "Fair to See;" and the lovers of graceful translation will rejoice to find that Theodore Martin's more absorbing literary labour does not debar him from adding to his heap of exquisite versions from Heine.

In *Temple Bar* we find the conclusion of Mrs. Edwardes' "Blue-Stocking," and what we take for the penultimate chapters of Miss Mathers' "Cherry Ripe," the *dénouement* of which latter promises to be less bad than it might seem. The author of former papers in this magazine on La Vallière, Montespan, and Maintenon, contributes here a lively sketch of the Court of the Grand Monarque, in which figure such butts as Princesse d'Harcourt and M<sup>lle</sup>. Panache, and such higher-

born but ill-starred women as M<sup>lle</sup>. de Montpensier, and our "Martyr's daughter, Henriette d'Angleterre." The habits and dissipation of this Court are a tale that it needs a good deal of tact to guard against a suspicion of nauseousness; and it is to a less corrupting contemplation that we are invited in the paper on the life and writings of Alfred de Musset. The ballad of "The Sinner's Bell" from Wilhelm Müller is fairly translated.

In the *Gentleman's Magazine*, under the title of "The Parlour Wall," Mr. Frederick Wedmore furnishes notes of recent "art-work in black and white," as an object of quest accessible to judgment, devotion, and study, and not so much confined to wealth as good paintings, carvings, or porcelain. The paper in question will suggest various available "wrinkles" to collectors of engravings and etchings, as well British as foreign, and has a good word, among cheap reproductions, for autotypes, especially of outline drawings. Mr. E. Belfort Bax undertakes the arduous task of rehabilitating the *soi-disant* "Ami du peuple," Jean-Paul Marat; and Mr. Arthur Arnold the easier one of vindicating the memory and honour of the gallant Lord Dundonald, upon whose claim, preferred by his grandson, a Select Parliamentary Committee has reported favourably. Austin Dobson's "Quartet from Horace" suggests a larger experiment of the application of the rondeau, rondel, triquet, and villanelle, to the lyric measures of the Venusian. The version of Carm. i. 23, "Vitas hinnuleo me similis, Chloe"—though there may be some question whether it is right in preferring "veris inhorruit Adventus foliis" to "vepris inhorruit Ad ventum foliis"—is admirably arch and Horatian; and it is a treat to accompany our old "brother of the angle"—Red Spinner—"a-trout-ing in Tasmanian waters." Apart from the gossip about baits, and rods, and Australian trout and grayling, it is gratifying to learn that the charm of English fruit and flowers is prized and realised by him in preference to the novelty of "gumtree scenery."

## SELECTED BOOKS.

## General Literature.

- BELL, C. D. The Four Seasons at the Lakes. Marcus Ward & Co. 31s. 6d.  
HAYM, R. Herder nach seinem Leben u. seinen Werken. 1. Bd. 1. Hälfte. Berlin: Gaertner. 6 M.  
POOLE, S. Lane. The Life of E. W. Lane. Williams & Norgate. 7s. 6d.

## History.

- ACTEN, die, d. Galilei'schen Processes. Nach der vatican. Handschrift hrsg. v. K. v. Gebler. Stuttgart: Cotta. 6 M.  
GINDLEY, A. Geschichte d. dreissigjährigen Krieges. 2. Bd. Prag: Tempsky. 8 M.  
GREEN, J. R. History of the English People. Vol. I. Macmillan. 16s.  
JEAFFUSON, J. C. A young Squire of the Seventeenth Century. Hurst & Blackett. 21s.  
RUTHERFORD, J. Secret History of the Fenian Conspiracy. C. Kegan Paul & Co. 18s.

## Physical Science.

- DOMBROWSKI, R. v. Das Edelwild. Monographischer Beitrag zur Jagdzooologie. Wien: Gerold's Sohn. 24 M.  
GREENWELL, W., and G. ROLLESTON. British Barrows: a Record of the Examination of Sepulchral Mounds. Clarendon Press. 25s.  
THOMSON, Sir C. Wyville. Voyage of the Challenger. The Atlantic. Macmillan. 45s.

## Philology, &amp;c.

- BRENTANO, E. Alt-Illon im Dumberkthal. Frankfurt-a-M.: Zimmer. 4 M. 20 Pf.  
KÖNIG, E. Neue Studien üb. Schrift, Aussprache u. allgemeine Formenlehre d. Aethiopischen. Leipzig: Hinrichs. 12 M.  
MERGUET, H. Lexikon zu den Reden d. Cicero. Mit Angabe sämtl. Stellen. 1. Bd. Jena: Dufft. 38 M.  
OSTHOFF, H. Das Verbum in der nominalcomposition im deutschen, griechischen, slavischen u. romanischen. Jena: Costenoble. 11 M. 20 Pf.  
SWEET, H. A Handbook of Phonetics. Clarendon Press. 4s. 6d.

## CORRESPONDENCE.


THE "ORIGINAL DRAFT" OF THE "CHRISTIAN YEAR."

London: Nov. 12, 1877.

The first edition of the *Christian Year* was published in 1825. The MS. reproduced by Mr. Elliot Stock is dated 1822 by Mr. Koble himself.





Akkadian name of this month was  AB. AB. GAR. "fire one makes," and it was dedicated under the title of "the month Ab"—[the month] of the Lord of the wood of life. Here we have a trace of the old myth of Prometheus, and an insight into the fact that the production of fire among the primitive Akkadians was by means of friction of pieces of wood. This old name contains no evidence of the sign Leo; but that such a tradition was current is now shown by this dedication of the seventh day. The tenth day is called "the rest day of Gula"—that is, of the Moon goddess. On the twentieth day it was "unfortunate to cross a river." The twenty-fourth day bears the title *Khi-di-tuv*, "an evil day," and the next day the title of the "festival of the eagle, the king of birds." On the thirtieth day "flesh is eaten."

The next two months are Elul and Tisri; of the latter of these the first sixteen days are lost. The calendar of them is as follows:—

#### Elul.

- Day
1. One has good fortune.
  2. One has good fortune.
  3. One has not good fortune.
  4. One has good fortune.
  5. One has not good fortune.
  6. One has good fortune.
  7. One has not good fortune.
  8. A warrior is established.
  9. A field is measured.
  10. One has not good fortune.
  11. One has good fortune.
  12. One has not good fortune.
  13. An injurious day.
  14. Day of rest.
  15. One has good fortune.
  16. One has not good fortune.
  17. The tongue of a fish is eaten.
  18. A day of punishment.
  19. A day of abstinence.
  20. A day of chastisement.
  21. One is not fortunate.
  22. One is fortunate.
  23. One has not good fortune.
  24. The magician makes an incantation.
  - 25.

(Remainder too much obliterated.)

#### Month Tisri.

(First sixteen days lost.)

- Day
17. The moon is visible.
  18. One has not good fortune.
  19. A stronghold is taken.
  20. Eclipse of the sun.
  21. Holy day—fortunate.
  22. The king is fortunate.
  23. Fortunate, a king is appointed.
  24. One has not good fortune.
  25. Strengthening of the king.
  26. One has not good fortune.
  27. Flesh even bull's flesh is eaten before the statues.
  - 28.
  29. A judgment is holy.

The month of *Elul* had as its Akkadian name "the month of the message of Istar." In this month it is supposed that she went up to heaven to her father Anu, to consult as to punishing Isdubar. It is curious to note that the Talmudic writers say that Moses ascended Mount Sinai in the month *Elul*:—"The Lord said unto Moses in the month *Elul*, Go up unto me on the mountain; and Moses went up, and received the second tablet at the end of forty days." The series of penitential days in this month seems to mark it as a month of special preparation for some festivals which occurred early in the following month. It is therefore greatly to be regretted that the early part of that month is lost. The greater portion of the month *Elul* was with the Jews a period of strict preparation for the Day of Atonement, and some similar custom appears to have been prevalent in Babylonia.

The eighth month, *Marchesvau*, has no festival

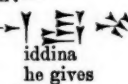
or days of any importance in its calendar; but in the ninth month, *Kisleu*, there are some points of great interest.


#### Month Kisleu.

- Day
1. One has good fortune.
  2. One has not good fortune.
  3. Corn one-third of a mana he offers before the statue.
  4. One has not good fortune.
  5. A day of rest (*bathulu*).
  6. A judgment is taken.
  7. An omen, a feast day (*bartuv*).
  8. One has not good fortune.
  9. One has good fortune.
  10. One has not good fortune.
  11. One has good fortune.
  12. Food cooked they place before the statue.
  13. One has good fortune.
  14. One has not good fortune.
  20. Eclipse of the Sun.

(Remainder unimportant.)

The passage for the third day of this month is very curious, as it is evidently the offering of first fruits. It is thus written:—

   
 seum. corn.      ma - na      iddina he gives  
 of a mana

  
 i - ni      za - lim.  
 before the      statue.

On the twelfth day meat, apparently cooked, is placed before the figure. This is very curious, as it clearly shows the truth of the statements in the Apocryphal book of "Bel and the Dragon" as to the placing of food before the Babylonian idols.

In the remainder of the tablet there are some few points to be noticed, but I will reserve these for future publication, and until I have been enabled to give a closer study to this important document.

This one tablet has furnished a very moderate example of what might be gained by a systematic exploration of the ruins of Babylonia, and it most strongly indicates the importance of attempting to gain more from those sites, either by public or private enterprise. W. ST. C. BOSCAWEN.

#### APPOINTMENTS FOR NEXT WEEK.

- SATURDAY, November 17.—3 P.M. Physical.  
 MONDAY, November 19.—8 P.M. British Architects.  
 TUESDAY, November 20.—7.45 P.M. Statistical: Inaugural Address, by G. J. Shaw-Lefevre, M.P., President.  
 8 P.M. Civil Engineers: Discussion on "The Progress of Steam Shipping."  
 8 P.M. Colonial Institute: "Indian Famines," by J. H. Elliot.  
 8.30 P.M. Zoological: "Contributions to the Ornithology of the Philippines," II., by the Marquis of Tweeddale; "On a Collection of Birds from Eoa, Friendly Islands," by Dr. O. Finsch; "On the Tænia of the Rhinoceros of the Sunderbunds, *Platyaenia gigantea*," and "On the Anatomy of the Chinese Water Deer, *Hydropates inermis*," by Prof. A. H. Garrod.  
 WEDNESDAY, November 21.—7 P.M. Meteorological: "On the general Character and principal Sources of Variation in the Weather at any Part of a Cyclone or Anticyclone," by the Hon. R. Abercromby; "The 'Arched Squalls' of the Neighbourhood of the Trade Winds," by Capt. A. Schlick; "On a remarkable Barometric Oscillation on January 30, 1876," by R. H. Scott.  
 8 P.M. Society of Arts: Opening Meeting.  
 THURSDAY, November 22.—8.30 P.M. Royal.  
 FRIDAY, November 23.—8 P.M. Quekett: "On a new British Sponge," by J. G. Waller.

#### SCIENCE.

"THE CHILD," BY PLOSS.

*Das Kind in Brauch und Sitte der Völker.*  
*Anthropologische Studien.* Von Dr. H. H. Ploss. (Stuttgart: Auerbach, 1876.)

(First Notice.)

DR. PLOSS's monograph on *The Child* at once takes its place among the handbooks of the Science of Culture. Its plan is to bring together and discuss in a systematic way the ideas and habits of all nations as

to the birth and early treatment of their offspring. How have different peoples come to fix their various rules for the dieting, clothing, cradling, carrying, doctoring, naming, consecrating, diverting, and teaching of children, and which ways are best for the public welfare? Here are two sets of enquiries, which are too generally carried on separately, as though one belonged, so to speak, to the Anthropological Institute, and the other to the Social Science Congress. Dr. Ploss's work is to be commended for the way in which the ethnological and practical sides are worked together and made to throw light on one another. He is, no doubt, right also in following the principle that all such customs had originally a practical intention, however absurd the purpose or the way of carrying it out may seem from our point of view. It so happens that the treatment of babies, being everywhere in the conservative hands of grandmothers and old nurses, has to an extreme degree kept up archaic ideas, even in modern Europe. It is the old wives who, in spite of the doctors' protests, still swaddle infants in Germany like live mummies, to prevent their growing crooked. It is they who give the children medicine to prevent their being ill, and keep up the use of nostrums which curious enquirers may trace back through the Middle Ages to Hippocrates and Galen, and wonder how old they were then. Nations, dynasties, faiths, may rise and fall, but old wives' tales hold on. Sometimes, indeed, a new name and adaptation is fitted to the old idea, as when the Three Fates or Norns give up to the "Three Maries" the task of spinning the child's thread of life; but there need not even be this change—in Albanian folklore the three classic Moirai (*Mire*) still deal out its destiny. Of all the many relics of early religion mentioned in the present book, perhaps none carries us so far back into the region of primitive animism as the Swiss peasant custom when a mother dies in childbirth, of putting a pair of shoes into her coffin that she may come back for six weeks to tend the child, for else she may appear and complain that she has to walk barefoot through the thistles and thorns. If mother and child both die, they give her needle and thread and soap, that she may do her sewing and washing for it. North-American Indians or South Sea Islanders could hardly go beyond this, or do it with much clearer intent. If, then, ideas so ancient can be kept up in the midst of modern cultured nations, how much farther may the nursery customs of the barbarians have carried on unbroken clues to guide our minds back into the prehistoric world.

The plan of looking for practical purpose at the origin of every custom is particularly applicable to those which may have been at first sanitary rules settled by habit for the public benefit, but which now present themselves under the more solemn aspect of sacred rites, and are even claimed as enjoined on man by divine revelation. On these customs our author, in his double capacity of physician and ethnologist, gives an opinion of some weight. Thus, he insists on the hygienic usefulness of the widely-distributed customs and ordinances as to

the separation and purification of mothers (chap. iii.). North and South Americans, Polynesians, Tatars, African Negroes, are alike in having as to this matter severe rules severely enforced, though they often can give no further reason for them than ancestral tradition, and fear that harm would come if they were set aside. From the similarity of the rules ordained in the great Old World religions, such as Brahmanism and Parsism on the Aryan side, and Judaism and Mohammedanism on the Semitic side, it can hardly be doubted that what the law-givers of these faiths did was to adopt, with more or less modification, an already existing customary law, re-enacting it under new religious sanction. It is curious to notice how nearly this particular group of social rules has disappeared, at any rate as express ordinances, from Christendom, where little is left except a few popular superstitions and the rite of "churching," which is the scarcely recognisable descendant of the Jewish purification. Another wide-lying custom, familiar to us from its forming part of the Levitical law, is circumcision, but the study of its distribution over the world makes it probable that here again we have a case of a prehistoric custom being adopted into national law (chap. xiv.). There is no reason to assume its first origin even in Egypt, the country where its earliest traces appear in the great Old World district it now occupies. How it reached Australia, Fiji, perhaps even South America, before Europeans visited these countries, or whether it was invented there, there is no evidence. But as to the reason of it, there is a fair case in favour of those who agree with Dr. Ploss that it was adopted from belief in its being a practically beneficial operation. At any rate, those who find in it the more mystic purpose of a symbol or a sacrifice must find it harder to explain why as such it has come to prevail over so large and distant regions.

Among customs derived from early stages of culture in Europe one deserves especial notice, which probably dates back far beyond the cromlechs and dolmens. Though the memory of its original purpose may be lost among the peasants who keep it up, it may still be interpreted among the tribes of the savage and barbaric world, to whom it properly belongs. This is the practice of deforming the skulls of infants (chap. xiv.). Within the last generation or so, medical observers have put on record its extensive prevalence in France, the custom of Normandy being for the nurses to give the baby's skull the approved sugar-loaf shape by means of bandages and a tight cap, while in Brittany the long shape of the newborn child's head is disapproved of, and pressure is applied to make it round. This latter appears to have been the old Swiss custom, to judge from a passage in the seventeenth-century *Hebammenbüchlein* of Muralt:—"As soon as the nurse has the child on her lap she looks it all over to see if it is well shaped, then gives its little head the round form, and puts on a scarlet fur and cap to preserve it." It is interesting to find the nurses not only shaping the babies' skulls, but shaping them to different types in different districts. One is reminded of the two contrasted portraits in Wilson's

*Prehistoric Man*, representing heads from two tribes of North-West America, one (the Newattee) shaped into a cone, the other (the Chinook) with the forehead flattened and broadened so that the unfortunate child looks in front like an aggravated case of water on the brain. So in New Caledonia some tribes prefer a long-head and others a flat-head type, and compel the infants' plastic little skulls to grow accordingly. This difference of opinion as to the desirable form of skull helps to explain the origin of the custom, as having arisen from the type of the dominant race being artificially produced or exaggerated. On this supposition we should expect to find, as we actually do, flat-headed or round-headed conquerors and nobles set up as models in different districts. Such a state of things is well shown among the Flathead Indians, who enslave the neighbouring tribes with undistorted skulls; the children of these captives are not allowed to have their skulls bandaged in the cradle so as to imitate the badge of nobility, and even white men are despised for having round heads like slaves. Just as naturally the nurses in Turkey in the sixteenth century, as the famous surgeon Vesalius mentions, gave the children bullet-heads, and among the Asiatic population of Constantinople it seems to be done still. The motive popularly assigned is that a round head suits best for wearing a turban, but the real reason probably lies much deeper, in the imitation of the round skulls of the conquering Tatar race. The details which show how large a part of mankind have habitually practised cranial deformation suggest the question whether any nations have been perceptibly injured by it. There are remarkable cases to the contrary, such as that of the Chinooks, whose monstrous deformation is said not to increase the mortality of the children, or even to prevent their growing up fully to the savage level of strength, bravery, and cleverness. On the other hand, travellers have set down some races with compressed skulls as exceptionally stupid. It is more to the purpose that in modern France medical observers, such as Foville and Lunier, have noticed among the insane an unusual proportion of patients with artificially distorted skulls, and have also remarked a prevalence of mental disease in those districts where the nurses still most persistently keep up the practice of skull-shaping.

EDWARD B. TYLOR.

*Unedirte Lateinische Gedichte.* Von Emil Baehrens. (Leipzig: Teubner, 1877.)

THE forty-eight pages of this little book are a real addition to the history of Latin literature. They contain (1) an hexameter poem of 290 lines, on the incestuous passion of a man called Perdica for his mother; (2) three poems which certainly, one which probably, belong to Tiberianus, a poet of the fourth century of our era; (3) the *Pervigilium Veneris*. The work, as will be seen from this third addition, is not accurately entitled *unedited* poems; for everyone is familiar with the *Pervigilium*. But scholars have reason to be grateful to Dr. Baehrens for introducing to their knowledge a poem so

interesting in every way as the *Aegritudo Perdicae*, and the two short lyrics *Amnis ibat inter arua ualle fusus frigida*, and *Ales dum madidis gravata pennis*. The editor is lucky indeed to have found so able a coadjutor as Mr. E. M. Thompson, of the British Museum, who transcribed for him from Harl. 3685, a paper MS. of the fifteenth century, the first, third, fourth, and fifth of the poems. In the second, the least interesting of the series, the *Versus Platonis de deo*, which Haupt was the first to edit from a MS. at Vienna, Dr. Baehrens has collated three new and earlier MSS., a wealth of material greatly out of proportion to the intrinsic value of the composition.

The *Aegritudo Perdicae* ranks with the poems of Dracontius, which like it have only within the last few years seen the light. Like Dracontius, its author must have been an African, a member of the group of which Claudian was the most celebrated representative, and which included a number of less distinguished names, Coronatus Felix Florentinus Luxorius Modestinus Pentadius Regianus Reposianus. This school of poets was especially connected with Carthage, which Florentinus in his panegyric of Thrasamund (Riese, *Anthol. Lat.*, 376, v. 32) describes as—

"Carthago studiis, Carthago ornata magistris."

The prosodical peculiarities of these African poets are familiar to the readers of Dracontius: they combine much care in the structure of the verse—i.e. in the management of the caesura and the avoidance of elision of any but short syllables—with great licences in quantity, especially in the final syllables. To me the writer of the *Aegritudo* seems, on the whole, more careful than Dracontius; many passages which the MS. presents in a corrupt form are capable of easy alteration; and in this respect the editor leaves a great deal to be done, though his own shortcomings have to some extent been made up by a clever coadjutor, Prof. E. Rohde.

The poem is interesting in one way not very novel. The mother of the unfortunate Perdica determines on a consultation of doctors; and a passage of considerable descriptive merit, 140–173, is devoted to a diagnosis of the case. All the organs pass successively in review; the heart, the pulse, the liver, the spleen; a perplexing absence of derangement in the functions puzzles an Hippocrates of long experience; and it is only when the sudden arrival of the object of his passion sets Perdica's pulse violently throbbing that the cause is seen to be love, and the case is dismissed as out of the province of medicine. Poor Perdica, when the doctors have failed, and a congress of handsome matrons is found powerless to divert his passion, at last succumbs, and dying prays to fortune that on his tomb may be inscribed, "Here lies Perdica, and with him Love slain." R. ELLIS.

#### SCIENCE NOTES.

##### BOTANY.

*Vegetable Remains in the Berlin Egyptian Museum.*—There are published in the *Zeitschrift für Ethnologie*, under the editorship of Profs. Magnus and Ascherson, the notes of a lecture delivered some years ago on the above by the late Prof.



Braun, of Berlin. The inducement to take up this subject was supplied by the discoveries made by Heer that the flax found in the Swiss lake-dwellings does not belong to the now generally cultivated species *Linum usitatissimum*, L., but to *L. angustifolium*, Huds., a species which is not cultivated now, but may be found growing wild in this country, France, and the Mediterranean region. As Heer is inclined from several reasons to believe in the African origin of the cultivation of this inhabitant of the lake-dwellings, it was an interesting question to solve whether the flax cultivated in ancient Egypt was the same as that of the lake-dwellings. The material for this investigation in the Berlin Museum was anything but extensive, only three seeds of *Linum* being found, and it was not even certain that these were genuine remains. One, however, belonged to *L. angustifolium*, and the other two to *L. humile*, Mill. (*L. usitatissimum*, var. *crepitans*, Schübl. and Martens). As they were found mixed in so small a quantity with the seeds of two cultivated plants, *Lactuca sativa* and *Nigella sativa*, it was supposed that they might have belonged to weeds growing among these cultivated plants. This did not look promising. The occurrence of *Linum humile* was, however, interesting, as this species is the only one of that genus cultivated in Abyssinia, where, Schimper tells us, the fruits are used as food by the poor classes, and also as a Lenten food. Prof. Braun thought it not improbable, all things considered, that this was the form cultivated in ancient Egypt. The doubt on this point may be soon solved, since old Egyptian seeds of *Linum* are known to exist in the Museum of Bulak. This is only one of the many interesting cases dealt with in the course of the memoir.

**A New Parasitic Chlorochytrium.**—Prof. E. Perceval Wright describes in vol. xxvi. of the *Transactions* of the Royal Irish Academy "a new species of parasitic green Alga belonging to the genus *Chlorochytrium* of Cohn." In it we have another occurrence of the remarkable and extremely rare phenomenon of a chlorophyll-containing thallophyte leading a parasitic life. Prof. Cohn, of Breslau, discovered in 1872 the first chlorophyllaceous endophyte living in the intercellular spaces of the parenchyme of *Lemna trisulca*, and on this plant the genus *Chlorochytrium* was founded. Prof. Wright, of Dublin, has now discovered what he supposes to be another species of this genus as yet undescribed living in the substance of *Schizoneura* fronds, and in the paper above quoted details the results of his investigations into its life-history. It may first be observed that the patience and labour bestowed on this investigation are to be valued apart from the result. Nothing, however, can be clearer, on Prof. Wright's own showing, than that the plant he describes is no *chlorochytrium* according to Cohn's diagnosis. We do not for one moment doubt the accuracy of Prof. Wright's observations so far as they go; but when his plant, as he himself plainly states, is distinguished from Cohn's by a "totally different process of the formation of the zoospores, and the occurrence of large and small zoospores" (the italics are ours), surely something more than a specific difference is present. As to this matter of large and small zoospores, "the true significance of this fact" Prof. Wright is "at present unable to determine." Many things are, of course, possible, and we have neither desire nor space to speculate on the probability of their conjugating besides fulfilling the function of vegetative reproduction. We will mention only one suggestive instance, that of *Ulothrix zonata*, which produces macrozoospores and microzoospores, the latter of which conjugate among themselves, but the former never, nor the one kind with the other, while both under favourable circumstances are capable of the asexual reproduction of the mother plant. Now, in this case of *Chlorochytrium* may not some of these forms of conjugation take place? This important point

was not cleared up. It would be fortunate if Prof. Wright himself discovered the true solution of this question. At present the value which the paper appears to have is as a partial description of the life-history of what seems to be a yet undescribed plant.

**A Fossil Peronospora of the Palaeozoic Age.**—Mr. Worthington G. Smith describes in the *Gardener's Chronicle* of October 20 the remains of a fungus found growing in the vascular bundles of a *Lepidodendron* from the coal measures. The name he gives to it is *Peronosporites antiquarius*, and he thinks it probably "one of the simple primordial plants of the great family of fungi," and connects with it various speculations which seem to have some connexion with the theory of evolution. There are given two woodcuts representing it. The history of the case, I understand, is this. Mr. Carruthers, the Keeper of the Department of Botany of the British Museum, discovered some years ago the fungus in question, and having carefully examined it and shown it to Dr. Rostafinski, both these gentlemen were of opinion that it belonged to the genus *Pythium*, for which there exist very good reasons in the shape of the swellings occurring in the mycelium. It was figured roughly by Mr. Carruthers in his printed Presidential Address to the Geologists' Association, delivered on November 3, 1876—of which fact I fail to find any notice in Mr. Smith's paper. There is very little doubt that sufficient characters are exhibited by the fungus to justify our placing it in the *Peronosporaceae* or the allied order *Saprolegniaceae*, since the round bodies are clearly oospores and their arrangement exactly like that at present obtaining in these orders. The one great point which Mr. Smith believes he has discovered is that of the existence of fossil zoospores in the fossil oospores. He has figured them, and thus we have his views on this question plainly stated. Let us take the second drawing (fig. 98). The oospore nearest the top of that drawing is purely imaginary, as I can testify from having seen the specimens, and, indeed, looks as if Mr. Smith had figured it as it ought to be for the sake of illustration; but this solution cannot be adopted, since the oospore is placed within the tissues. What suggested the presence of zoospores are various fragmentary markings seen on or in the oospores, perhaps caused by the drying-up and contraction of the contents, or perhaps by accidental ruptures of the cell-membrane. These markings are far too thick to be the slender cell-walls of zoospores, as they at present occur. The only way I can see in which Mr. Smith might make this fact valuable to the Darwinian theory is by supposing the difficulties to be contended with in the "struggle for existence" to have been then so formidable to zoospores as to necessitate the precaution of their fortifying themselves with very thick walls! I do not see that there was any particular necessity for Mr. Smith's introducing Prof. de Bary, but if the thing was to be done, it might have been done correctly. Mr. Smith states that Prof. de Bary places the *Saprolegniaceae* among the *Algae*, while "other botanists place the *Saprolegniaceae* among true fungi." Considering the amount of opposition which Mr. Smith has on various occasions publicly shown to Prof. de Bary in the matter of the potato-fungus (*Phytophthora infestans*), one would have thought him to be so well acquainted with the details of Prof. de Bary's memoir as not to require to be reminded of the following words on page 8:—"I refer to the *Saprolegniaceae*, fungi which for the most part live in water." Since then Prof. de Bary has published nothing altering this.

[GEORGE MURRAY.]

**Movements of an Aquatic Submerged Plant.**—M. Rodier has recently made some interesting observations on the rhythmical movements of a well-known water plant, *Ceratophyllum demersum*. The branches of this plant present two different aspects. Sometimes the whorls are very close

to each other, the internodes being very short, and the leaves of the consecutive whorls, resting on each other, make with the stem a very acute angle, and forming a compact mass. In other cases the internodes are elongated, the whorls more distant, and the leaves become more and more nearly at right-angles to the stem, until at length some of them actually point downwards. It is this last form which displays in the most striking manner the movements here described. Taking the axis at the moment when it is nearly erect, it is seen to bend regularly, curving more and more, for about six hours, when it reaches its maximum of flexion; then, straightening itself more slowly, it resumes its original position in about twelve hours. It next bends in a direction opposite to its first flexion, and in four hours it attains its maximum of inverse flexion, resuming its erect position again in four hours. The total duration of a revolution is hence about twenty-six hours. Thus, a young branch is vertical at 6 A.M., attains its maximum of flexion at noon, is again perfectly erect at midnight, attains its maximum inverse flexion at 4 A.M., and is again vertical at 8 A.M., &c. If examined carefully under favourable conditions, it is seen that the movement of flexion takes place first in the higher or younger internodes, advancing thence with diminished intensity from above downwards; while, on the contrary, the movement of erection commences with the lower or older, and ends with the upper internodes. The oscillations continue very apparent during several days, diminishing usually at the end of a certain time. Light does not appear to have any influence on the movements, which were carried on with equal vigour when the light was partially or entirely cut off, when it was thrown, by means of a mirror, from the opposite direction, or when it was made to pass through red glass. M. Rodier was unable to detect that the leaves have any motion of their own, independent of that of the stem.

#### ASTRONOMY.

*Annales de l'Observatoire de Paris, publiées par U. T. Le Verrier. Mémoires.* Tome XIV.—This is the last volume of the *Annales* prepared under Le Verrier's own superintendence, the printing of which was nearly finished at his death. It contains his tables of Uranus and of Neptune, and completes the great undertaking on which he was engaged during his life, and which is now fortunately left to us and to posterity as a finished work. Besides these concluding chapters of Le Verrier's masterly "*Recherches Astronomiques*," the volume contains some other memoirs of great value and interest. In his "*Recherches sur la comète périodique de d'Arrest*," Leveau communicates the results of his troublesome investigations of the motion of d'Arrest's comet during the four revolutions which it has made since its discovery in 1851. The ephemerides prepared by Villarceau had, in 1857, led to the rediscovery of the comet by Maclear at the Cape of Good Hope. The discussion of the observations of the two apparitions, however, did not allow Villarceau to obtain elements which were quite free from uncertainty, and this uncertainty affected considerably the calculations of the large perturbations produced in the comet's motion by the proximity of Jupiter during the period from 1850 to 1862. At its next return to perihelion in 1864, for which Villarceau had given predictions, the comet was so unfavourably placed that it was not seen; and now Leveau undertook the further investigation of the perturbations and the preparation of an ephemeris for the following apparition of the comet in 1870. The proper combination of the results of the observations of this latter year with those of the two former apparitions for the determination of a definitive system of elements has demanded very troublesome calculations. For the corrections of the elements could not be determined by the ordinary methods, since the variations of the great perturbations produced by

Jupiter were of the same order as the variations of the elements, and Leveau therefore repeated the calculations of the large perturbations between July 1859 and August 1863, for six hypothetical variations of Villarcieu's elements. The moderate perturbations between August 1863 and October 1869 could be assumed to be the same for all these variations, and in this way Leveau derived seven sets of elements for 1869, which strictly corresponded to Villarcieu's elements for 1851, and their six hypothetical variations. The comparison of the results of the observations of 1870 with the places computed from the seven sets of elements led then to a series of equations of condition, which, joined to those which Villarcieu had derived from the observations of 1851 and 1857, furnished a system of equations for the determination of the corrections of the elements. The new system of elements which Leveau has thus deduced represents the observations of the three apparitions very fairly, and it has served in the succeeding calculations and in the preparation of the ephemeris of the comet during its apparition in the present year. The comet was found on July 9 near the predicted place, and the observations are, perhaps, not yet closed. Leveau's memoir shows that the further prosecution of the investigations connected with D'Arrest's comet is in most competent hands.—In a memoir, "Exposé de la méthode de Hansen pour le calcul des perturbations spéciales des petites planètes," M. Perigaud does good service to readers who have some difficulty in studying Hansen's papers in the original, by furnishing a fair and clear account of Hansen's method for computing special perturbations.—The "Remarques historiques et critiques sur les observations faites au Pérou de la distance de l'étoile  $\epsilon$  d'Orion au Zénith, par Bouguer," are of considerable interest for the history of the expedition to Peru, as they throw additional light upon the geodetic operations of the French Academicians in their celebrated expedition to the equator, and upon the causes of the dissensions and disputes between Bouguer and La Condamine which in the middle of the last century agitated the French Academy of Sciences.—In the last memoir of the volume, "Description du groupe des Pléiades et mesures micrométriques des positions relatives des principales étoiles qui le composent," C. Wolf furnishes a most valuable contribution to our knowledge of the Pléiades. He has accurately determined the relative positions for 1874 of seventy-nine of the brighter stars in reference to Aleyone. The comparison of the places of fifty-two of these stars with their corresponding places in the Catalogue of Bessel for 1840 tends to confirm the inference previously drawn—that these stars move together in a group. A general catalogue provides the approximate places and estimations of magnitude of 571 stars which are visible in a telescope of thirty-one centimètres (=12.2 in.) aperture within a space of nine minutes of time extent in right ascension, and ninety minutes of arc in declination. The memoir is accompanied by an excellent map of the Pléiades, showing the positions of 625 stars and representations of the large patches of nebulae discernible within the group.

In a paper supplementary to the Parliamentary "Report by the Astronomer Royal on the Telescopic Observations of the Transit of Venus 1874, &c." (*vide ACADEMY*, October 20, p. 389), the Astronomer Royal has communicated to the Royal Astronomical Society the value of the solar parallax which is deducible from the telescopic observations of the British Expedition when the results are combined in a general system of equations. It is probable that in future discussions the legitimacy of the adopted reductions of the various observed phases will be called in question. It is sufficient here to state the Astronomer Royal's last value of the mean solar parallax, which is  $8''.754$ , corresponding to a distance of 93,375,000 miles.

THE discovery of a new planet on October 2, mentioned on page 390, has turned out to be merely a rediscovery of the planet, No. 161, "Athor." But the vacant place, No. 175, has soon been filled by a new planet, "Idunna" (? "Iduna"), found on October 13 by Peters, at Clinton, New York, and two further discoveries of new planets have been announced since—No. 176, on November 5, by Paul Henry, at Paris, and No. 177, on November 6, by Palisa, at Pola.

*Transits of the Shadow of Titan across the Disc of Saturn.*—Possessors of good telescopes have now some excellent chances of making a few valuable and interesting, yet very simple, observations, by watching the passage of the shadow of Titan across the central meridian of the disc of Saturn, and by stating the time when they become doubtful whether the passage is taking place, and the time when they cease to doubt that it is past. The interval between these two times, or the duration of uncertainty, may amount to five or even ten minutes, yet the observation, if made carefully and without bias, will give a most valuable result. On November 7 the passage of the shadow was observed by Mr. Bazley at Hatherop Castle, Fairford, and by Mr. Gledhill at Mr. Crossley's observatory, Halifax, and the agreement of their estimates leaves nothing to be desired. The opportunities for making these observations are rare. Observers in England must be on the alert on

Nov. 23	about	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ h. G. M. T.
Dec. 9	"	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Dec. 25	"	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Jan. 10	"	5 "

or they must wait till the year 1891, there being no other opportunity till then. Observers provided with proper means for micrometrical measurements ought to do their best to measure the distance of the shadow from the major and minor axis of the ring during the passage. But even good eye-estimations of the distances of the shadow from the southern and northern limbs of Saturn at the time of mid-passage will be of value.

#### PHILOLOGY.

DR. A. RASSMANN, the well-known student of the history of the national Germanic epic poetry, has made an important contribution to the subject in his latest work, *Die Niflunga Saga und das Nibelungenlied* (Heilbronn: Henninger). He considers this Saga to be one of the most important documents for the history of the Germanic epos, and especially of the Nibelungenlied. The general results of his investigations are that the Niflunga Saga is based neither on the Nibelungenlied nor on the heroic poems of the Edda, but on the older songs which formed the basis of both. According to Dr. Rassmann the epos of the Nibelungs was first developed in the north of Germany—in Saxony—and afterwards modified in the south into the form of the existing Nibelungenlied. These modifications reacted afterwards on the older and more conservative tradition kept up in the north, and on this incorporation of the two the Niflunga-saga is based.

DR. HERMANN HUSS has brought out a short treatise on German accentuation, *Lehre vom Accent der deutschen Sprache* (Altenburg), in which this important subject has, for the first time, received a full and adequate treatment. The logical character of German accentuation makes it peculiarly interesting to all philosophical students of language generally, as well as to special Germanists. From a purely practical point of view also, such a work is much needed, for, in spite of the simplicity of its general principles, German accentuation offers many difficulties of detail. Dr. Huss has been the first to notice and explain such nice distinctions as that between *feierroth*, "red with the colour of fire," and the purely intensive *feuerroth*, and between *die Wäsche* ist

*schneeweiss* and *schneeweisse Wäsche*, due to the absence and presence of inflection. The difficult details of the accentuation of foreign words are fully and clearly set forth.

*Griechisch-Lateinisches Etymologisches Wörterbuch.* Von Alois Vaníček. (Leipzig.) This is really a second edition of a work which we noticed some years ago, *Etymologisches Wörterbuch der Lateinischen Sprache* (Leipzig, 1874). But while the first edition comprised 256 pages only, the first volume of the second edition extends already to 560 pages. The author has added Greek to Latin etymologies, and he has likewise made his references to Sanskrit far more complete and perfect. He very modestly professes to do no more than to "register the derivations of Greek and Latin words which are found in the works of Bopp, Corssen, Curtius, Fick, Hehn, Miklosich, Max Müller, in Boehtlingk and Roth's *Dictionary* and in Kuhn's *Zeitschrift*." Works of this kind, though they must be consulted with caution, are extremely useful. Dr. Vaníček has done well in following the example of Curtius, and giving, at the end of each article, the references in support of most of his etymologies. In that respect his work and Curtius' *Greek Etymology* are far more serviceable than Fick's *Dictionaries*. A curious light is thrown on the difficulties under which German scholars—or, as we should say in Dr. Vaníček's case, Slavonic scholars—labour while compiling these useful works. Dr. Vaníček confesses that in being moved from one small town to another as a schoolmaster, he lost his MS. containing all the references from letter A to N, pp. 1-442. He had no time to supply the loss, working probably under pressure, and he had, therefore, to leave that portion of the work less perfect than the rest. But what is still more curious is that a scholar, employed on so great and important an undertaking, should not have been able to procure a copy of Pott's *Etymologische Forschungen*; nay, that till lately he should have been unable to buy a copy of Boehtlingk and Roth's *Sanskrit Dictionary*, a work almost indispensable to every student of Comparative Philology. If with such scanty means such really useful results can be produced, would it not seem as if scholars, too, can be "rich from the very want of wealth"?

#### MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES.

##### ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—(Tuesday, November 6.)

A. GROTE, Esq., V.P., in the Chair. The Secretary read a Report on the additions that had been made to the Society's Menagerie during the months of June, July, August and September, 1877.—A letter was read from Mr. R. Trimen, containing remarks on the African species of *Sarcidornis*.—A letter was read from Mr. A. O. Hume, containing some remarks on Mr. Howard Saunders' recent paper on the Sterninae.—The Secretary exhibited on the part of Mr. Geo. Dawson Rowley an egg of *Pauxis galeata*, laid by a black hen.—Prof. W. H. Flower read a paper entitled "A further Contribution to the Knowledge of the existing Ziphioid Whales of the Genus *Mesoplodon*," containing a description of a skeleton and several skulls of Cetaceans of that genus from the seas of New Zealand.—A communication was read from Lieut.-Col. R. H. Beddome, containing the descriptions of three new species of reptiles from the Madras Presidency. These it was proposed to call *Oligodon travancoricum*, *Gymnodactylus jeyporensis* and *Bufo travancoricus*.—A communication was read from the Marquis of Tweeddale, containing an account of a collection of birds made by Mr. A. H. Everett in the Island of Luzon, Philippines. Three new species were named *Megalurus ruficeps*, *Dicaeum xanthopygium* and *Oryzocera everetti*.—Mr. D. G. Elliot read some remarks on *Felis tigrina*, Exr., and its synonymy, showing that *F. mitis*, F. Cuv., and *F. macrura*, Pr. Max., are identical with that species.—Prof. Garrod read a paper on some points in the visceral anatomy of the rhinoceroses of the Sunderbunds (*Rh. sondaicus*).—A second communication from Prof. Garrod contained a note on an anatomical peculiarity in certain storks.—Mr. Edgar A. Smith read a paper in which he described some shells from Lake Nyassa and a few marine species



from the mouth of the Macusi River, near Quilimane, on the East Coast of Africa.—A communication from Dr. O. Finsch contained the description of a new species of petrel from the Feejee Islands, which it was proposed to name *Procellaria albigularis*.—A second communication from Dr. Finsch contained a Report on the collections of birds made during the voyage of H.M.S. *Challenger* at Tongatabu, the Fiji Islands, Api, New Hebrides, and Tahiti.—Mr. Edward R. Alston read a supplementary note on rodents and marsupials from Duke of York Island and New Ireland. *Macropus lugens*, Alst., was shown to be a synonym of *Halmaturus Brownii*, Ramsay, while Mr. Ramsay's *Mus echimyoides* and *M. musavora* were respectively identical with *Mus Brownii*, and *Uromys rufescens* of Alston.—A communication from Mr. L. Taczanowski contained a supplementary list of birds collected in North-Western Peru by Messrs. Jelski and Stolzmann. Two species were new, and it was proposed to call them *Rallus cypereti* and *Pene-lope albigennis*.

#### ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—(Wednesday, November 7.)

PROF. WESTWOOD, President, in the Chair. Mr. McLachlan exhibited ten of the thirteen species of Lepidoptera collected by Captain Feilden and Mr. Hart in Grinnell Land, between 78° and 83° N. lat., during the recent Arctic Expedition. The Rev. A. E. Eaton also made some remarks upon Arctic insects.—Mr. Meldola exhibited a gynandromorphic specimen of *Pieris brassicae* taken in Oxfordshire by Mr. J. B. Watson, and a five-winged specimen of *Gonepteryx rhamni*, taken by Mr. J. Woodgate in Norfolk. Mr. H. Goss exhibited a gynandromorphic *G. rhamni*, caught in Sussex.—Mr. J. W. Douglas exhibited a specimen of *Polyphylia fullo*, Linn., which was brought to England on a steamer from Antwerp. Mr. Douglas exhibited also examples of *Tetigometra impressopunctata*, and *Typhlocyba debilis* taken at Sanderstead Downs, and a specimen of *T. tenerima*.—Mr. Boyd exhibited a larva of *Pieris rapae* which had been attacked by *Microgaster*.—The President read notes on exotic Coleoptera, and exhibited specimens and drawings.—Mr. Wood-Mason made remarks upon stridulating crustaceans, and also announced the discovery of stridulating apparatus in a *Phasma*.—Sir Sydney Saunders read a note on the specific identity of the Hampstead *Atypus*. Mr. F. Enock exhibited a male and female of this spider, and made remarks upon them.—Mr. C. O. Waterhouse read a paper entitled "Descriptions of new Species of the Coleopterous Genus *Callirhipis* (Rhipidoceidae) in the British Museum."—Mr. A. G. Butler communicated a paper containing "Descriptions of a new Genus and two new Species of *Sphingidae*, with Remarks on the Family generally."—Mr. J. S. Baly communicated "Descriptions of *Halticinae*," and the Rev. H. S. Gorham "Descriptions of new Species of *Cleridae*, with Notes on the Genera and Corrections of Synonymy."

#### MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY.—(Thursday, November 8.)

LORD RAYLEIGH, F.R.S., President, in the Chair. The following were elected to act as council for the session: President, Lord Rayleigh; Vice-Presidents, Prof. Clerk Maxwell, Mr. C. W. Merrifield, Prof. H. J. S. Smith; Treasurer, Mr. S. Roberts; Hon. Secretaries, Messrs. Jenkins and Tucker. Other members, Prof. Cayley, Mr. T. Cotterill, Mr. J. W. L. Glaisher, Mr. Hart, Dr. Henrici, Dr. Hirst, Mr. Kempe, Dr. Spottiswoode, and Mr. J. J. Walker.—Prof. Cayley read two papers, "On the Function  $\phi x = \frac{ax + b}{cx + d}$ " and "On the Theta-Functions."—Mr. Tucker read part of a paper by Mr. H. MacColl, "On the Calculus of Equivalent Elements." A short account of this analytical method has been given by the author in the July and November numbers of the *Educational Times* (1877), under the name of "Symbolical Language." The chief use at present made of it is to determine the new limits of integration when we change the order of integration or the Variables in a multiple integral, and also to determine the limits of integration in questions relating to Probability. This object, the writer asserts, it will accomplish with perfect certainty, and by a process almost as simple and mechanical as the ordinary operations of Elementary Algebra.—The President read a paper "On Progressive Waves." It has often been remarked that when a group of waves advances into

still water, the velocity of the group is less than that of the individual waves of which it is composed; the waves appear to advance through the group, dying away as they approach its anterior limit. This phenomenon seems to have been first explained by Prof. Stokes, who regarded the group as formed by the superposition of two infinite trains of waves of equal amplitudes and of nearly equal wave-lengths, advancing in the same direction. The writer's attention was called to the subject about two years since by Mr. Froude, and the same explanation then occurred to him independently. The question is more generally considered in his work on the *Theory of Sound* (sec. 191). Reference was made to a paper read by Prof. Osborne Reynolds at Plymouth, and afterwards printed in *Nature*. Another phenomenon also considered was the following: a steam launch moving quickly through the water is accompanied by a peculiar system of diverging waves, of which the most striking feature is the obliquity of the line containing the greatest elevation of successive waves to the wave-fronts. This wave-pattern may be explained by the superposition of two (or more) infinite trains of waves of slightly differing wave-lengths, whose direction and velocity of propagation are so related in each case that there is no change of position relatively to the boat. The mode of composition will be best understood by drawing on paper two sets of parallel and equidistant lines, subject to the above condition, to represent the crests of the component trains. In the case of two trains of slightly different wave-lengths, it may be proved that the tangent of the angle between the line of maxima and the wave-fronts is half the tangent of the angle between the wave-fronts and the boat's course.—Prof. Clifford communicated a "Note on the Triple Generation of Three-Bar Curves." A conclusion arrived at was: if one of the three-bar systems is a crossed rhomboid, the other two are kites. It is well known that the path of the moving point in both of these cases is the inverse of a conic. This is intuitively obvious as soon as the figure is drawn, and thus supplies an elementary proof that the path is the inverse of a conic in the case of a kite, which is not otherwise easy to get. He also gave a construction for the mass-centre of an octahedron, and spoke on vortex-motion.

#### ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY.—(Friday, November 9.)

DR. HUGGINS, President, in the Chair. Lord Lindsay read parts of Mr. Gill's Reports to the Society respecting his expedition to Ascension. The observations for determining the parallax of Mars extend from July 31 to October 3. Satisfactory observations had been obtained on thirty-two evenings and twenty-five mornings, and altogether 327 complete measures of distance had been secured. Duplicate copies of the original observations accompanied the Reports.—The Astronomer Royal read a paper "On the Inferences for the Value of Mean Solar Parallax and other Elements deducible from the Telescopic Observations of the Transit of Venus, December 8, 1874, which were made in the British Expedition for the Observation of that Transit." He stated that the paper was supplementary to his official Report laid before Parliament, and that the result for the sun's parallax was 8".754.—Prof. Adams gave an account of his paper "On the Motion of the Moon's Node in the Case when the Orbits of the Sun and Moon are supposed to have no Eccentricities and their mutual Inclination is supposed to be indefinitely small." He referred to a paper lately published by Mr. Hill, of the American Nautical Almanac, "On the Part of the Motion of the Lunar Perigee which is a function of the Mean Motion of the Sun and Moon," the appearance of which induced him to communicate part of researches in which he had followed, long ago, a somewhat parallel course to that of Hill's investigation. Prof. Adams had long been convinced that the most advantageous way of treating the lunar theory was first to determine with all desirable accuracy the inequalities which are independent of the eccentricities and inclination, and then in succession to find the inequalities of one dimension, two dimensions, &c., in terms of these quantities. He made known the result which he had obtained for the motion of the moon's node under the conditions stated in the title of his paper. The Astronomer Royal objected that the investigation applied to the case of an imaginary moon, while what was wanted was the investigation

of the motion of the real moon.—Mr. Neison made the interesting announcement of his discovery of a new term of long period in the mean motion of the moon, due to the direct action of the planet Mars. He had made a provisional determination of the value of the term, and had found its coefficient 7"55, with a period of 406 years. It was gratifying to find that for the period 1780 to 1851 the new term completely accounted for the discrepancies between the observations and the tables, which had shown themselves since it was found that one of Hansen's terms due to the action of Venus must be rejected. The new term failed in accounting for the discrepancies in the period 1750-65.—Mr. Green was called upon to give some account of his expedition to Madeira, where he had gone for the purpose of making sketches of Mars. He showed some of these sketches and stated his experience of the appearance of some of the spots, but deferred a fuller account to a later occasion.—Mr. Christie stated the results of some of the spectroscopical observations of Mars which had been made at Greenwich.—Captain Noble ascribed the difference in the appearance of the preceding and following limb of Mars which he had generally observed to the prevalence of clear skies at sunrise and of cloudy skies at sunset.—Mr. Brett read a paper on "The physical Condition of Mars," which apparently tended to upset, without hesitation, several of the prevailing notions respecting this condition. There was no time for discussing the question.—Finally, Lord Lindsay gave a short account of a new arrangement of the spectroscope for the observation of objects of considerable angular diameter.

#### NEW SHAKSPEARE SOCIETY.—(Friday, November 9.)

TOM TAYLOR, Esq., in the Chair. Mr. Edward Rose read a paper on Shakspeare's adaptation of *The Troublesome Reigne of King John*. He contended that Shakspeare's skill as a practical dramatist had never been really appreciated, and that yet he owed his universal fame in great measure to this quality, by virtue of which his plays still kept the stage. To prove this thorough knowledge by Shakspeare of his art, Mr. Rose compared the play of *King John*, act by act and scene by scene, with the anonymous play from which it was adapted by Shakspeare, and showed how he had put it into practicable stage-form, compressing scenes, expanding speeches, reducing the exits and entrances to a minimum, and making the important characters stand out in bolder relief. At the same time, play-hearer and reader could not but feel the want of a strong central character in the play, which was fatal to its success on the stage, and which might, Mr. Rose thought, have been overcome, had Shakspeare departed boldly from the lines laid down by the original author, which, instead, he has followed with singular closeness. In the discussion which followed, Mr. Tom Taylor said that the most valuable lessons which a modern dramatist could get in the representation of character on the stage were still to be drawn from Shakspeare's plays. Mr. Furnivall, while glad that Mr. Rose had acknowledged Shakspeare's one great and two smaller mistakes in *King John* which were not due to the old play—the failing to connect the king's poisoning with his crimes, and to account for the Bastard's hatred of Austria and opposition to Blanche's marriage—suggested that Shakspeare's strength, development of character, and especially the characters of the men he admired—as Falconbridge, &c., in *King John*—sometimes led him to sacrifice dramatic proportion to it, and accounted for the weakness of *John*, &c., and specially of *Henry V.*, as acting plays. Nothing could make *Henry V.* "go" as a play. Mr. Peter Bayne, while agreeing in this, urged that this same being swung away by delight in a character—like Scott with Nicol Jarvie—in other plays heightened their dramatic force as well as their charm. Mr. Hetherington, Mr. Rose, and others also spoke.

#### ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.—(Monday, November 12.)

THE opening meeting of the session 1877-8 was held under the presidency of Sir Rutherford Alcock, K.C.B. In the course of a lengthy inaugural address, the president referred first to the work of the Geographical section of the British Association at Plymouth, under Admiral Sir Erasmus Ommaney, and then to the objects of the International Commission for the Exploration of Africa, founded by the King of the

Belgians. Of this scheme Sir Rutherford remarked that, though all the English members of the commission wished to co-operate in its objects to the best of their ability, the Royal Geographical Society felt that such aims as commercial enterprise, suppression of the slave-trade, and missionary or other civilising efforts, though likely to favour geographical exploration, were foreign to the scope of the society. The first expedition under the direction of the International Commission of Brussels left Southampton for Zanzibar on October 18. It consists of four persons, including an astronomer and geographer and a naturalist, and the proposal is to found a station at or beyond Lake Tanganyika, with depôts at Zanzibar and Unyamwesi. The African Exploration Committee of the Society's Council had co-operated by making a grant of 250*l.* to the Brussels Commission, had recommended the expedition to the Consul-General at Zanzibar, and through him to the Seyyid, and also to the London and Church Missionary Societies, with a view of obtaining a welcome for the explorers. The Brussels Commission has obtained most firm financial support, and in France a national committee has been formed under the presidency of M. de Lesseps. A "German African Society," distinct from the "German Society for the Exploration of Equatorial Africa," has already arranged to despatch Herr Schütte, an engineer and topographer, to penetrate into the interior from Angola on the West Coast. The Marquis Antinori's expedition from the East Coast had been greatly hampered by the want of proper supplies, but these had now been obtained by Captain Martini, who returned to Italy for the purpose, and there was hope of the expedition being able to push on towards the Victoria Nyanza from the kingdom of Shoa. The travels of Dr. Lenz and Dr. Pogge in the west had been successful, the first having penetrated some distance into the interior from the mouth of the Ogowai River, and the latter having journeyed from St. Paul de Loanda to Musumbe, the capital of Muata Yanvo, a locality never before reached by any explorer, and lying many days' journey to the west and north of Cameron's route. Lieutenant de Brazza had advanced along the Ogowai River to Doume, a village situated 11° east of Paris, and had already obtained interesting geographical information respecting the Ogowai River, its tributaries and riparian tribes. Mr. Stanley had also made a successful journey from Nyangwe along the course of the Congo to its mouth. Sir Rutherford continued that we must look to our Government and our merchants to follow up these efforts with a view to attaining the three great objects—the development of a vast trade, the civilisation of the African race, and the suppression of the slave-trade, for which last object alone this country had, during the last seventy years, spent 70,000,000*l.* The opinions of Cameron and Stanley were that the opening-up of Central Africa presents no insurmountable difficulties. Three high roads for waggons from the East Coast to Lake Victoria, Lake Tanganyika, and Lake Nyassa, would do much towards opening up the country and substituting legitimate commerce for the slave-trade. The bullock-wagon and the steamboat would do the rest, till the railway and electric telegraph should complete the work. It might seem visionary to talk of such innovations; but the obstacles to these were not greater than such as had been successfully overcome in other countries—notably in the cases of the telegraph-line from St. Petersburg to the east coast of Siberia, a distance of about 5,000 geographical miles; of the line from New York to San Francisco; and of the overland telegraph-line across the continent of Australia; all of which has been accomplished within the last seven years. Sir Rutherford recorded his opinion that since the maritime discoveries of the fifteenth century, which had opened new routes to India and China, and revealed a new world, so magnificent a field for enterprise had never presented itself; and concluded with an earnest appeal to Great Britain to join in the task of regenerating Africa.—The Secretary then read a paper by M. Philippe Broyon-Mirambo, a young Swiss, who had settled in Unyamwesi, the territory of King Mirambo, and had married one of the king's daughters. The paper was a brief one, descriptive of the country which lies immediately south of the Victoria Nyanza, and of its people.—Mr. Hutchinson, of the Church Missionary Society, testified to the want of good roads in Africa, and to the cordiality with which both the Church Missionary Society and the London Missionary Society were working together to

establish civilisation and commerce. The President briefly expressed his satisfaction at Mr. Hutchinson's statement, and the meeting broke up.

## FINE ART.

### THE ETRUSCAN MUSEUM OF VOLTERRA.

Rome : October, 1877.

In resuming my series of letters, after an illness which has interrupted all studious occupations, and before entering upon the most recent researches, which I will speak of in subsequent communications, I wish to be allowed, though rather late, to detail certain facts that cannot fail to be interesting to archaeologists.

Last February I paid a visit to the new museum of Volterra, inaugurated a few days before my arrival by the Minister of Public Instruction and the Director-General of Museums and Excavations.

Among other speakers on that occasion was the distinguished director of the museum, Cavaliere Niccolò Maffei, a deputy of the national Parliament, and a learned antiquary, to whom belongs the merit of having organised the museum, and promoted an institution which adds a new glory to Volterra. While he sought to make known the reasons by which he had been guided in his arrangement of the objects exhibited, a monograph of Signor Ludovico Ruggieri Buzzaglia, entitled *The Public Museum and Guarnacci Library of Volterra*, of which copies were distributed among those present, explained appropriately the origin of the museum, and the way in which, after many vicissitudes, it had been becomingly arranged.

The love of the inhabitants of Volterra for their antiquities is of long date. In the last century, when an antiquarian taste arose in Italy, they undertook the exploration of their own territory, and their discoveries soon attracted the learned, who hastened to examine the remains. Well known are the observations of Scipio Maffei, who reiterated that nobody could become an authority on Etruscan antiquities without having visited Volterra. Citizens there of every class took pleasure in filling their houses with antique objects, and the Camaldolese monks themselves were zealous in making a collection.

This licence of exploration resulted in injury to the remains. To obviate this, the Emperor Francis in 1748, at the request of the municipality, appointed a commission empowered to superintend the excavations. At the end of thirty-two years, a decree of the Grand-Duke Peter Leopold, in 1780, abolished this commission; but there was no lack of materials for the formation of other councils, which provided for the safety of the monuments.

Five museums existed in Volterra. The first of these belonged to the commune, the second to the Guarnacci, the third to the Giorgi, the fourth to the Galluzzi, and the fifth to the Franceschini. With the exception of the fourth, which passed into the possession of the Royal Gallery of Florence, these museums, little by little, made presents of their contents to the municipality of Volterra. The first to set the good example was Dr. Pietro Franceschini, who in 1731 presented a great number of urns and other antiquities discovered in the Marble House under the hill of the Portone. The municipal authorities rewarded the giver with the freedom of the city, and ordered that the urns should be placed in a ground-floor room of the Palazzo dei Priori. The example of Franceschini was followed by Monsignor Jacopo Gaetano Inghirami, afterwards Bishop of Arezzo; by the Cavaliere Michele Buonamici; by the Brothers of St. Jerome; by the heirs of Francesco Falconcini; by the Cavaliere Ferdinando Incontri; by the families of the Arrighi and the Maffei. Thus was formed a town museum of inestimable value, as may be seen from the description given of it by Riccobaldi del Bava in the Appendix to his *Dissertations*.

But the largest contribution to the public collection was made by the generosity of Monsignor

Mario Guarnacci. By a series of excavations, which lasted ten years (1733-1743), he had collected many precious Etruscan remains. These he transferred, in a deed of gift, to the commune of Volterra, declaring that the presentation included all objects of the same kind which he might subsequently acquire. He added the Greek and Roman inscriptions placed in the court of his palace, as also his library with the rooms appertaining thereunto, and an annual sum of one hundred and twenty scudi towards the maintenance of the museum and the library.

The remains thus acquired were transferred to the Palazzo dei Priori in 1789, four years after the death of the donor. Joined to the antiquities already deposited, they formed the most valuable portion of the collection, which from that time took the name of "Public Museum and Guarnacci Library," and was placed under the supervision of a special committee.

Forty years later, the collection had increased to such an extent that the space assigned to it in the Palazzo dei Priori was no longer sufficient. All efforts to find room for the new treasures in this historical edifice having proved unavailing, the absolute necessity of transferring the collection to an appropriate place was recognised. The Municipality decided upon buying the Palazzo Tangiassi, formerly Desideri, and thus yielded to the unceasing representations of the Cavaliere Niccolò Maffei, on whom devolved the difficult task of altering the building and of distributing the collection anew. In this way the long-cherished plans of Cavaliere Maffei were realised; and in one of the halls of the new museum a worthy place was found for a marble statue of Monsignore Mario Guarnacci, executed by Bagnolesi, at the expense of a society which Maffei himself had founded in 1863. The Museum of Volterra is rich in coins, in bronzes, in terra-cottas, in marvellous mediaeval ivories, in glass, and in amber; nor less precious are its archives, which contain sixteen thousand two hundred rolls, beginning with the municipal deeds of 1279. But to archaeologists this museum offers a collection unrivalled in its way, of Etruscan urns; and of these I have now to speak.

These urns, which are principally found about Volterra, Chiusi, and Perugia, are small sarcophagi, bearing generally on their covers a likeness of the departed in some familiar attitude, and frequently reproducing the same in reliefs in front. The art belongs to a period of decadence; but the subjects are valuable for their reference to mythology, as well as to the public and private life of the Etruscans. In objects of this kind the Museum of Volterra is the richest of all. It possesses the not insignificant number of 553 urns, which, in the new distribution, occupy fourteen rooms of the Palazzo Tangiassi. The immense variety of subjects and of ornaments renders it difficult to classify them; and the Cavaliere Maffei, after due reflection, preferred to any so-called artistic arrangement the disposition of the urns according to their designs. He divided the 553 monuments into two classes. The first includes all subjects of a nature peculiarly Etruscan—tending, that is, to illustrate popular beliefs. The second embraces reliefs which represent facts having reference to other civilisations. These, though modified by and adapted to the Etruscan national character, nevertheless bear evident traces of their Greek origin.

The two categories thus formed are subdivided into many classes. The more ancient urns are extremely simple, without reliefs of any kind, and with covers made in the shape of roofs, from which it has been thought that they represent the house inhabited by the departed in the world beyond the grave. Later appear signs of a door or of lateral windows, as in the urn in the Vatican Museum, where an individual is looking out. But this primitive conception of the house presently undergoes modifications. It is no longer enough to give the idea of the habitation; the tenant also must be reproduced.



Therefore the cover, which in the beginning only stood for a roof, now bears a recumbent figure stretched on a soft couch with supports. This accessory totally transforms the original meaning of the urn, which now represents a bed or simply a pedestal. The ornaments need no longer be limited to the illustration of one fact, but free scope is accorded to the artist for reproducing, on the base, acts having reference either to mortuary legends or to the reverence of the dead. On these grounds the Cavaliere Maffei subdivides the urns into nine classes.

The first class is composed of simple urns representing habitations; the second comprises those which, while remaining simple, have a recumbent effigy on the cover. The third embraces urns with symbolical ornaments; the fourth those bearing figures of daemons; the fifth includes all the funeral scenes attendant on the passage of the soul from this world to the next. The sixth class is distinguished by rilievi which record both definite acts of heroism and scenes also of an heroic nature but of a vague signification. The seventh reproduces subjects of an uncertain bearing which some consider funereal, others heroic. The eighth class relates entirely to the Theban cycle; and the ninth, consisting of scenes from the Trojan War, contains the urns described by Brunn in the first volume of his work on *Etruscan Urns*, which is the only one as yet published.

In pursuance of this distribution Cavaliere Maffei has placed in the first room on the ground floor the urns having covers in the shape of a roof more or less pointed. To these succeed the sarcophagi distinguished by the figure of the deceased, who, with one exception, is never represented as dead, but always as reclining at a banquet or in sleep. The ornaments along the base begin with rosettes and palm-leaves, and flowers intertwined with ribbons and scrolls. The *patera* subsequently replaces the large open flowers of the lotus, and fantastic animals succeed to the lateral branches and palm-leaves. Later the *patera* yields place to a Gorgon with snaky hair or to a scenic mask flanked by Furies. Sometimes, instead of the *patera*, we have a rilievo of a cinerary urn guarded by griffins. When the griffins are not thus employed they struggle with armed men or precipitate themselves upon monsters; and thus in the first two rooms to the left we come upon the urns of the third class, which illustrate the fury of marine monsters armed with oars, and the rage of a threatening Scylla, who issues from her cave to seize the navigator or the shipwrecked sailor.

In the next room are placed the first representatives of the fourth class—those, namely, which show us the passage of the soul to the other world. First of all comes the scene in which the departing one takes leave of his friends. Sometimes, standing by his bier, he bids farewell to one survivor, in the presence of daemons or of Furies who are to accompany him; at others, the shade of a benevolent ancestor, wrapped in his funeral mantle, assists at the sorrowful ceremony. Occasionally not one but several ancestors are introduced, and there is added the figure of a servant bearing on his shoulders a sack full of the good or evil actions of the master whom he is about to follow on his last journey. The sad scenes of farewell do not always take place in the family dwelling-house. Often the friends and relatives of the deceased go with him a little way, and at a point of the road, in the open air, they part from him. They turn back, and he proceeds on his way, accompanied by daemons, who urge him on. Sometimes the procession of friends only stops at the limit of the grave, represented by a *cippus*, or by a dome formed of several *cippi* placed one upon the other.

The journey is not always performed on foot. Constantly we see the dying man take leave of his family while the horse on which he is to ride off awaits him. Other urns exhibit a servant who, mounted on the horse, spurs it towards the

deceased, or holds it in front of him. This office is occasionally discharged by a Fury. When the deceased is represented on horseback, he is preceded by a Fury, or by Charon wrapped in his typical mantle, who will sometimes not disdain to lead the horse on which the shade sits, while the servant carrying the sack comes on behind. Occasionally the ancestors are not in time to assist at the leave-taking on the bed of death; they will then join the deceased half-way on his road, and, not to be outstripped by him, they also arrive on horseback. The journey may be accomplished otherwise than on foot or on horseback. A car is substituted drawn by two horses, whose drooping heads express sorrow or the fatigue of the long road. Inside the car is the deceased, and his ancestors, either mounted or on foot, are seen approaching him. Some, preferring the rapid *quadriga* to the slow movement of the car, choose a chariot. Others, finally, depart not by land but by sea, embarking in the boat which no tempest will divert from its haven.

The third room on the left, the great apartment at the end of the hall, and three rooms on the right, are full of urns bearing the designs which we have described. In the central room on the first floor, immediately at the top of the flight of stairs, are to be found the urns of the sixth class, representing heroic scenes. Conspicuous among these is Helen rescued from Theseus, and others in which some discover Ulysses with the Sutors, Penelope and Hippodamia, the expiation of Orestes, and the death of Pyrrhus. Here also we see Theseus and the Minotaur; and a most beautiful terra-cotta urn with a rilievo of Medea fleeing from Corinth.

The urns in the next room show a man assailed with axes; a party of women attacked; and other designs of an uncertain character, which go to compose the seventh category. Next in order is the eighth class, which occupies two rooms on the left. Here we find Amphiarus counselled to join the Theban War; the death of Laius; Oedipus and the Sphinx; Archemorus; Eteocles and Polyneices; the Seven at Thebes and Capaneus. Then follows the large hall, where are ranged the scenes of Troy. These comprise the recognition of Paris; the rape of Helen with the treasures; Troilus, Menelaus, and Paris; Achilles and the slaves; Paris and Philoctetes; Telephus in the Grecian camp, and Iphigenia in Aulis. This series extends into the two following rooms to the left, where we have rilievi of the death of Agamemnon and Clytemnestra; Orestes and Pylades pursued by the Furies; Polyphemus; Circe; Ulysses and the Sirens; the Banquets and Death of the Sutors. The last room of all contains the urns of which the subjects are not clearly defined, but which by many are considered to refer to those last described. In the remaining four rooms of the first floor are to be seen various painted vases and others varnished black; terra-cottas from Arezzo, sculptures (among which are statues with Etruscan inscriptions), epigraphs, bronzes, coins, mirrors, glass, amber, gems and gold.

This cursory mention of so many archaeological treasures is sufficient to indicate the importance of the Museum of Volterra, and the gratitude due to Cavaliere Maffei, whose zeal has been untiring. It is to be hoped in the interests of study that he may continue to be sustained by the favour of his fellow-citizens, and encouraged by the province and the Government to realise his remaining plans for increasing the archaeological wealth of his native town. In the meanwhile it would be well if Cavaliere Maffei were not to delay the publication of his catalogue, which would certainly render easier of access the wealth of antiquarian remains. If it saw the light at the same time with Maffei's extensive researches on the urns of Volterra, another good result might follow—we mean the completion by the illustrious Heinrich Brunn of his work on the *Rilievi of Etruscan*

*Urns*, a subject which could ill be touched by another hand now that so distinguished a man has not disdained it. F. BARNABE.

# ART SALES.

THE return of the season for the sales of rare prints and drawings announces itself, not yet by any promises of special interest either from Messrs. Christie, Messrs. Sotheby, or from the Hôtel Drouot, but by the issue by M. Prestel, the well-known dealer of Frankfurt (to whom was confided two or three years ago the sale of the great Kalle collection), of three somewhat important catalogues of auctions to take place at the end of the present month. There is first that of the small collection of "M. W. P. K."—about a couple of hundred lots in all; including works chiefly of masters of the Northern schools. Among these are some examples of the prints of Hans Sebald Beham and Barthold Beham; two etchings only by Claude, but one of them is announced as of the most extreme rarity, being nothing less than the first state of *Le Bouvier*, Claude's admitted masterpiece. The prints of Ostade occupy a large place in the collection. There are a few etchings by Rembrandt, of which the most noteworthy, from the connoisseur's and collector's point of view, would seem to be the very rare first state of *Le Paysage au Bateau*. Another collection about to be sold at Frankfurt is that of the late Prof. Heimsöelt, of the University of Bonn. This collector, it is announced, devoted himself, more especially in his later years, to the acquisition of original drawings by the great masters, so that his print collection is in hardly any case complete, but stress is laid upon the quality of such engravings as he had possessed himself of, and one favourite master, Hans Holbein, is indeed largely represented. Marcantonio and the German Little Masters are not unrepresented. The late Dr. Wolff, also of Bonn, is the third collector whose treasures fall under the hammer of M. Prestel. Dr. Wolff's name has long been known to the connoisseur as that of the possessor of a superb and very extensive collection of the works of Vandyke, many of which are cited in the Vandyke Catalogue by Mr. Hermann Weber, who himself played some part in forming the assemblage of rarities now connected with the name of Dr. Wolff. In addition to the portfolios of etchings by Vandyke, Dr. Wolff had brought together an immense collection of portraits of "doctors, physicians, astronomers, alchemists, and other like persons of all countries," which it is thought probable will be preserved together by a sale *en bloc*. The manuscript catalogue of this collection fills forty volumes.

# NOTES ON ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY.

THE authorities at the South Kensington Museum have lately issued a series of reproductions in red chalk of twenty-six of the more important of the charming Watteau Drawings—the property of Miss James—which were recently exhibited at Bethnal Green. They may be seen at the office for Photographs in the Museum.

SOME time ago, when a pinnacle was blown off the central lantern of the Houses of Parliament, the authorities proposed, as a simple method of restoring the uniformity, to take down all the other pinnacles. Fortunately, public attention was called to the matter, and the vandalism was for the time prevented. The spirit which dictated it still, however, seems to haunt the building. It has now attacked the smaller pinnacles on the parapets. Nearly all those on the north front have already been removed, probably to save the expense of painting their iron finials; and, unless the same power which interfered before does so again, there is little doubt that the mutilations will be continued all round the building.

MR. BURN requires the names of more subscribers before he can publish his rilievo map of Rome, to which we have already called attention, and which is intended to show the configuration of the site of the city and the course of the Tiber through it. We hope that further subscriptions will be forthcoming.

MR. WHISTLER is engaged, we hear, on a portrait of a young lady which will be an addition to the "harmonies" already executed in "black and grey." Among comparatively or quite recent etchings and dry-points executed by Mr. Whistler, there is a plate of London Bridge which is by no means inferior to the best of his river-side views and studies on the waters of the Thames. The bridge is seen from below it, near the water's edge, and at no great distance, the sweep of one great arch being drawn, and all the massiveness of the masonry indicated, with freedom and force of hand. The composition, too, whether or no it has actually preoccupied the artist, has the appearance of having been more carefully balanced than in some other plates by the same skilled but unequal etcher with which the artistic public is already familiar.

We have received from Mr. Thibaudeau an artist's proof—one of a hundred taken—of M. Legros' just-published portrait of M. Gambetta. A comparatively limited number of prints follow the proofs, and the plate, it is announced, is then to be destroyed. The work, though not in all respects agreeable, has particular interest at the present moment; and it is, at all events, a skilful example of etched portraiture. M. Legros' greatest possible success in portraiture was reached, we consider, in the admirable plate after the head of his brother-artist, M. Dalou; not, indeed, to the full in the later and larger number of impressions published in an artistic monthly periodical—creditable as those were—but in the few early impressions which, printed with exceptional care, lie chiefly in the portfolios of certain privileged collectors.

THERE has lain too long already on our table a little unbound volume in which Dr. Marc Rosenberg—whose name is probably familiarly known by readers interested in the art and antiquarianism of Germany—has treated with true German exhaustiveness the theme of the high-altar in the minster of Alt-Breisach, midway between Basle and Strasbourg. The work includes an Introduction on the church generally, and on the history of its erection; and it is lighted up by several good photographic illustrations of the carvings in stone for which the church of Alt-Breisach is known to many. The subject does not invite lengthened criticism in an English journal; but we may say that Dr. Rosenberg has proved himself abundantly learned. He has written on his theme *con amore*. *Der Hoch-Altar im Münster zu Alt-Breisach* is published, we should add, by Carl Winter, of Heidelberg.

ABOUT a month since there was discovered in making a garden nearly a mile to the east of the Ventimiglia railway station what is believed to be the remains of an antique theatre. It is about half-an-hour's drive from Bondighera. It was entirely concealed by sand, which had probably blown over it, and of which the neighbouring soil is mostly composed. A mound was thus formed, below the surface of which the topmost stones lay but a few feet. The discovery was made in digging up a garden, and was purely accidental, there being no record or tradition of the existence of any antiquities on the spot. Various classical relics have, however, been found in the neighbourhood. Close at hand, in the garden of Signor Aprosio, is a stone monument with a Latin inscription. Tradition asserts that two of the churches in Ventimiglia, distant more than a mile to the west, occupy the site of Roman temples of the municipium of Intemelium. The excavations are unenclosed, and lie but a few yards to the left of the

Cornice road, on the property of Signor Pietro Biamonte, just before the road, going eastward, reaches a level railway-crossing, and soon after the Nervia stream. The sea is about a mile distant, and the land slopes to it by so slight an incline that here the height above its level is probably not twenty feet. It was at first stated to be an amphitheatre; but now the better opinion is in favour of its being a theatre. More complete excavations and study are, perhaps, necessary to determine the question with certainty. If we suppose it to have been a theatre, the spectators would have had the Mediterranean Sea before them to the south, and the mountains at their backs, the stage running nearly east and west. The form appeared to be rather oval than circular. The portion so far unearthed consists of a round end and about forty feet of an adjacent side, including one of the entrances—unfortunately a large house stands where the excavation should be extended. This has been conducted by Prof. Rassi, of Ventimiglia. The stone work is in fine preservation; it is of limestone, said to have been brought from Turbia. There is no trace of arches, the entrance being roofed by large flat stones, one measured being 3 mètres long by 1 mètre 50 c. wide. This entrance has a cornice of severe design, on which the marks of the mason's chisel are as fresh as if lately made; the stone seats are also admirably preserved. Some small objects were found, including a terra-cotta amphora (in which were an infant's bones), a small pillar of white marble with its capital, and a male human skull. The trains passing between Genoa and Nice stop long enough, on account of the Customs, to allow a short visit if one has a companion to pass the luggage; but it would be desirable to take one of the carriages almost always to be found at the station.

IN 1872, as we have already mentioned, a school of lacework was established in the small island of Burano, near Venice, celebrated in old times for that manufacture. Great advantages, it was expected, would result to the island from the development of an industry capable of giving support to thousands with a merely nominal capital. In his recently printed Report, Mr. Consul Smallwood, referring to this undertaking, says that under the direction of an aged woman, who remembered her craft and still worked lace in Burano, the school had, in 1872, 12 girls, 24 in 1873, 48 in 1874, 100 in 1875, and 130 in 1876 (of whom 100 are skilled workers). The annual account of the establishment for 1876 shows a credit of 14,754 lire, with a debt of 13,693 lire, while many orders for the lace are now under execution. Among the patronesses appear the Princess Margherita, Lady Marion Alford, Lady Adelina Cocks, Lady Suffield, and Mrs. Layard.

PAINTINGS similar to those of the Bushmen have been found in the caves of New Zealand. Dr. Haast, the geologist, has given an account of some very interesting rock-paintings discovered by him in the Weka Pass ranges. The valley in which the Weka Pass cave is found is now dry, but must have had a large volume of water flowing through it in post-pliocene times. The paintings are subsequent to two kitchen-middens (of different epochs) which lie below them, and in which bones of the moa and *Apterix Owenii* were met with. The paintings belong to three distinct periods. First of all, there are some in red paint, now almost obliterated. Above these are others also in red paint, and above these again ruder and more primitive ones in black. All must be anterior to the arrival of the Maoris, whose art is of a wholly different nature. According to Matiaha Tira Morehu, the Maori chief of Moeraki, and the best living authority on Maori traditions in the South Island, the paintings are attributed to the Ngapuhi, the oldest inhabitants of New Zealand of whom there are any traditions. The figures are large, very numerous, and interlaced.

Among them are human beings, marine monsters, birds, animals, and weapons. The moa seems also represented, as well as the taniwha or fabulous gigantic lizard which is said to have watched the moa. Then there is an object from the top of which smoke is issuing; it is also found among the paintings in the Takiroa cave. What is most interesting, however, is the drawing of a huge snake, three feet long, with swollen head and protruding tongue. As no snakes are known in New Zealand, we here seem to have indications that the people who executed the paintings had come from a foreign country. Now among the figures occur a large number of signs which, according to Dr. Haast, are remarkably like the characters of the Tamil alphabet, and since a bell with a Tamil inscription has been found in New Zealand, it is quite possible that the paintings were made by wrecked sailors who had come from India. Dr. Haast first met with rock-paintings in 1862, during his geological surveys in the south; these were in a splendid state of preservation, which unfortunately does not seem to be the case with those from the Weka Pass.

IT is to be feared that a society for the protection of ancient buildings is needed in Germany as well as in England, for restoration is as much the fashion of the day in the one country as the other. We regret to find that there is now a project in contemplation for the restoration—or, rather, it might more justly be said, for the rebuilding—of the beautiful old church of St. Catherine at Oppenheim. Herr Baurath Horst, a distinguished German architect, has furnished a plan for this restoration, which was published in the *Kunst-Kronik* last week; and it is easy to see from this the extent of the insult and injury which threatens the venerable pile. For instance, it is positively proposed that the fine old square tower, dating from the fourteenth century, shall be entirely reconstructed in its upper portion. This tower certainly suffered much in the fire which destroyed the west end of the church in 1689, when the French took the town; but it is difficult to believe that it is necessary to pull it down altogether because it would not bear a new roof being placed upon it. Other roofs are also to be reconstructed, and the entire system of water-conduction changed. This, we can well believe, may be a necessity; but modern appliances in place of the old stone gutters will rob the building of much of its picturesque effect. Nothing is as yet said about interior restoration, but this will no doubt follow, and the beautiful thirteenth-century chancel, which was spared by the fire of the seventeenth century, will now fall a prey, it is to be feared, to the zeal of the restorer of the nineteenth. The eminent Vienna architect, Herr Fr. Schmidt, one of the first authorities on the subject of restoration, is entirely in favour of the undertaking, and approves cordially of Herr Horst's plan. The subject is creating considerable interest and discussion in Germany.

A CRITICAL review by J. P. Richter of Mr. J. T. Wood's *Discoveries at Ephesus* appears in the *Kunst-Kronik* of last week.

HERR LIPPMANN, the director of the Royal Print-room at Berlin, is arranging, it is said, a Dürer exhibition. The recently-acquired Hulot collection will form an important part of it.

MAKART's immense picture of Catherine Cornaro has been bought for the Berlin National Gallery for the sum of 50,000 marks. It will henceforward find a suitable resting-place on the staircase of the new gallery, where the light falls upon it in the most effective manner.

It has been decided, on the proposition of the Director of Fine Arts, that the Salon shall not open next year until May 15, a fortnight later than usual, on account of the opening of the Universal Exhibition, which is definitively fixed for the 1st.



A CONSIDERABLE number of portraits and busts of modern French celebrities have been placed by the Minister of Public Instruction in one of the galleries of Versailles. The names of the men whom France has decided thus to honour are as follows:—Chateaubriand, De Villèle, De Serre, De Martignac, Royer Collard, Ampère, Guizot, Molé, Thiers, Berryer, Lamartine, Dupin, Montalembert, Lacordaire, Cousin, Mgr. Sibour, Mgr. Darboy, Président Bonjean, Sainte-Beuve, Alexandre Dumas, Alfred de Musset, Balzac, Ingres, Delacroix, Horace Vernet, Delaroche, Decamps, Flan-drin, David d'Angers, Théodore Rousseau, Le Verrier, Scribe, Auber, Rossini, Halévy, and Félicien David. The list is certainly comprehensive in its range, and other names will, it is supposed, shortly be added. Probably this is the outcome of a project that was talked of some time ago for erecting a National Portrait Gallery in France after the English model.

A QUESTION is being raised in France as to whether portrait medallions, medals, and coins with portraits ought to be admitted to the Gallery of National and Historic Portraits which is being organised for the Exhibition of 1878, or whether these do not belong more naturally to the section of ancient art. M. Benjamin Fillon, in a long letter to the *Chronique des Arts* on this subject, warmly advocates their admission, saying truly that the medal formerly played an important part in historic portraiture, and without it the features of many celebrities of ancient times would be unknown to us. Even where other portraits exist, one gains much by being able to compare the profile of the medal with them.

SOME interesting "Notes de Voyage" of an art tour from Paris to Amsterdam are being published in the *Chronique* by M. Louis Gonse, the editor of the *Gazette des Beaux-Arts*. In the current number he gives an account of the valuable manuscripts preserved at the Hague.

BESIDES the selection of drawings of artists of the Norwich school, which we mentioned last week as having been contributed to the forthcoming exhibition at the Grosvenor Gallery, we understand that it is proposed that "Old" Crome, the founder or chief of the school, shall be especially well represented at the "Old Masters" next year. A number of his works have been gathered together from various collections in Norfolk and other parts of England.

THE death is announced of M. Gustave Brion, a French painter of considerable reputation. His principal works were *The Wood-Cutters of the Black Forest*, by which he first obtained notice in the Salon of 1853, *The Alsatian Marriage*, *Christ Walking on the Water*, *The Towing Path*, *A Burial in the Vosges*, and *Reading the Bible*, which obtained for him the Salon medal of honour in 1868. This last, and two or three other of his works, have been engraved in the *Gazette des Beaux-Arts*.

M. JAN VAN BEERS, the popular and prolific Belgian painter, is at present organising an exhibition at Brussels of three hundred of his landscapes. Last year he was content with exhibiting forty specimens of his marvellous dexterity in landscape manufacture; but to these must be added his clever humorous painting of *La Sorcière*, which attracted great attention at Paris.

THE collection in the *Goethe-Haus* at Frankfurt has just been enriched by the addition of the original of the widely-known portrait of the poet by Prof. Johann Heinrich Lips of Zürich, and later of Weimar. Lips was born in 1753, and died in 1817. He was originally a surgeon, but was persuaded to turn his attention to art by the influence of Lavater, to whose "Physiognomische Fragmenten" he contributed many engravings. Goethe met him in Rome in 1786, and offered him the directorship of the Drawing Academy at

Weimar in the name of the duke. He failed as an oil-painter, and confined himself exclusively to drawing and engraving. His portrait of Goethe, which is regarded by many as the noblest in existence, was drawn from the life in 1792, and thus represents the poet in the handsome perfection of his early middle age. Two years later Lips was compelled by sickness to return to his fatherland, where he remained until his death.

KASPAR BRAUN, the publisher of the *Fliegende Blätter*, who has just died in Munich, has earned a well-deserved renown throughout Germany on account of his zealous and successful labour for the re-introduction, improvement and extension of wood-engraving, which had become almost a lost art in the land of Dürer. He was born at Aschaffenburg in 1807, and after devoting himself for a time to historical and genre-painting and to etching in his native place, he studied in Munich at the Royal Art Academy. He afterwards went to Paris, and turned his whole attention to wood-engraving under the direction of the able Bavère. On his return to Munich, in 1839, he founded his *Xylographic Kunstanstalt*, and in 1844 added the business of publishing by issuing his celebrated humorous periodical the *Fliegende Blätter*. The productions of his house became still more widely known by the issue of the Munich *Bilderbogen*, upon which the gifted Moritz von Schwind worked until his death.

THE title of the "Ecole Nationale de Dessin et de Mathématiques" has been changed at the instance of M. Louvrier de Lajolais into that of "Ecole des Arts décoratifs." This old institution, which was founded more than a century ago by the painter Bachelier, has been flagging greatly of late, but it is hoped that it will take new life under the active management of M. de Lajolais, who projects many improvements and alterations in the course of instruction which it gives—improvements pre-figured to a certain extent by its change of name, which no doubt implies also a change, or at all events an enlargement, of aim.

AN important work on Ceramics entitled *Grundriss der Keramik in Bezug auf das Kunstgewerbe*, by Friedrich Jaenicke, is being published in parts by the firm of Paul Neff in Stuttgart. The plan of the book is much like that of Jules Jacquemart's *Histoire de la Céramique*—that is to say, it follows the same order of division into East and West, giving the different countries of each, but it purports to contain a fuller history of the subject and a greater number of marks. It is to be completed in fifteen numbers, and will be illustrated by about 400 woodcuts and 2,500 marks and monograms.

## MUSIC.

THE Monday Popular Concerts were resumed for the season on Monday last at St. James's Hall. At the first concert no special novelties were given. Mdme. Norman-Néruda, with Messrs. Ries, Zerbini and Piatti, played Schumann's quartett in A minor, Op. 41, No. 1, and Haydn's quartett in B flat, Op. 55, No. 3. The pianist was Miss Anna Mehlig, who chose for her solo Beethoven's Variations and Fugue, Op. 35, on the theme of the finale of the Eroica symphony, and joined Mdme. Norman-Néruda and Signor Piatti in Mendelssohn's trio in C minor. The vocalists were Mdles. Friedländer and Redeker, and Sir Julius Benedict conducted. The first of the Saturday Popular Concerts takes place this afternoon.

At the Crystal Palace Concert last Saturday two extracts from Gounod's last opera, *Cinq Mars*, were performed for the first time. These were a cavatina, "Nuit resplendissante," from the first act, and the ballet music from the second. Both are written with the composer's accustomed fluency and skill, and the ballet music is piquant, and (it is almost needless to say) charmingly in-

strumented; but neither produces the impression of novelty. Of the opera as a whole we hope shortly to speak in some detail, as a copy is now awaiting review; we will merely add that the cavatina was given by Mdme. Lemmens-Sherrington—who later in the programme introduced a song by her husband—and that the performance was characterised by that conscientious care which Mr. Manns never fails to bestow on all new works. The same may be said of another novelty of the afternoon—the overture to Prof. Macfarren's last oratorio, *Joseph*, which was given for the first time in London. The overture, which is of an essentially pastoral character, is one of the most attractive numbers of the work, and, being written in symphonic form, is well adapted for concert use apart from the oratorio to which it forms an introduction. The symphony of the afternoon was Beethoven's No. 4, in B flat. Miss Anna Mehlig, who was the instrumental soloist of this concert, deserves the thanks of musicians for reviving Hummel's great concerto in B minor, one of the finest of the seven which he published. The work had not been previously heard at Sydenham, a fact probably due more to its technical difficulty than to any other cause; the comparatively small number of pianists able to do justice to it mostly choose the more modern school of *bravura*, as illustrated in the works of Liszt and his followers. Hummel's music is exactly suited to Miss Mehlig's highly-finished mechanism, and her playing of the concerto was excellent. This afternoon's programme is of more than usual interest, including a new Festival Overture by Mr. C. Villiers Stanford (the same one, we believe, which he composed for this year's Gloucester Festival), Schumann's glorious "Rhenish" symphony, Beethoven's piano concerto in C minor, the closing scene of *Tristan und Isolde*, and the Ballet Music from Rossini's *Mosé in Egitto*.

THE first subscription concert for the present season of the Borough of Hackney Choral Association took place at Shoreditch Town Hall on Monday evening. The programme included Mendelssohn's "13th Psalm" for alto solo and chorus—a beautiful but seldom heard work—Mr. E. Prout's "Magnificat," Op. 7; a selection of six numbers from Weber's *Oberon*; and the overture to *Guillaume Tell*. The soloists were Miss Catherine Penna, Miss Annie Butterworth, and Mr. Henry Guy. The band and chorus, conducted by Mr. Ebenezer Prout, numbered nearly 200 performers.

WE announced a few weeks since that a new musical paper was shortly to be issued. The first number of the *London and Provincial Music Trades Review* has now made its appearance, and it may certainly be said that it promises well. Besides the anonymous articles, of which the editor, of course, takes the responsibility, there are signed articles by Dr. J. F. Bridge, and Messrs. Brinley Richards, Wilhelm Ganz, Percy Betts, and Henry F. Frost. The notices of the month's music and of forthcoming musical events are very full, and among the special features of the paper are the "Trade Review," articles on the trade in Germany and France, and the list of patents and inventions registered during the month. The only article that is not quite to our taste is that entitled "Our Palace of Truth," which is written in a style more in favour in America than in this country. In other respects we think the number most excellent, and wish our new contemporary all success.

VERDI'S *Requiem* is to be given next Thursday by the Royal Albert Hall Choral Society, under the direction of Mr. Joseph Barnby.

At Herr Franke's third concert on Tuesday evening, the chief items of the programme were Brahms's pianoforte quartett in G minor, Schubert's great string-quartett in D minor, and Bach's Prelude and Fugue in G minor for violin solo, played by Herr Otto Peiniger.

GLASGOW has during the present week celebrated the opening of the new City Hall, which has been erected at a cost of 80,000*l*. A performance of the *Messiah* was given on Tuesday evening, and for Thursday was announced Prof. Macfarren's new cantata, *The Lady of the Lake*, which has been specially composed for the occasion, and which it is to be hoped may soon be heard in London. Last night (Friday) the first of the orchestral concerts was to be given under the direction of Dr. Hans von Bülow, with a programme selected from the works of Beethoven.

OUR excellent English harpist, Mr. Adolphus Lockwood, who is at present residing in Germany, appears to be meeting with brilliant success there. In the *Königsberger Zeitung*, no less eminent a critic than Louis Köhler, in noticing an orchestral concert recently given, speaks of Mr. Lockwood's playing as the finest that he has heard since that of Parish-Alvars, thirty-five years ago.

THE full score of Brahms's great symphony in C minor, which was produced with such success at the Crystal Palace last winter, has just been published by Herr Simrock, of Berlin.

AN ingenious system for teaching children the rudiments of music, in the form of a round game entitled "The Royal Game of Music," has been sent to us for notice. It is the invention of Mr. F. Barrett, of Nottingham, and by its aid children will easily acquire a knowledge of the scales, intervals, and chords, as applied to the piano. While we do not, in general, believe in the combination of play and study, we must at the same time say that, after an examination of the little toy, it appears well adapted to its object. It may be obtained from Messrs. Metzler and Co.

THE Théâtre-Italien, Paris, reopened on the 3rd inst. with a performance of Donizetti's *Poliuto*, the principal part being sustained by Signor Tammerlick. Two interesting revivals—Monsigny's *Le Déserteur*, and Grisar's *Les Traveissements* have been given at the Opéra Comique; while Adam's *Si j'étais Roi* has been revived at the Opéra National-Lyrique.

A NEW octavo edition of the vocal score of Wagner's *Tannhäuser* has just been published in Germany, which is interesting as the first application of a new process of music-printing by the eminent firm of Röder in Leipzig, by which the original folio pages are reproduced in exact facsimile on a reduced scale.

FRANZ VON HOLSTEIN's opera *Die Hochländer* has been given with great success at Leipzig and Hamburg.

TSCHAIKOWSKY is at present engaged on the composition of a new opera. It is entitled *Eugen Onegin*, and the libretto is founded upon Pushkin's poem of the same name.

#### NEW PUBLICATIONS.

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